

# Granite City Press-Record

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MADISON DIAMOND JUBILEE SECTION

# MADISON 1891 1966

# DIAMOND

# JUBILEE



**TRAVEL BACK WITH US** through the dim corridors of time as we attempt to re-create the places and the people, the fads and the foibles, the atmosphere and the attainments, the moods and the mannerisms that were Madison during its first 75 years of existence.

In such a diverse and changing community, there is no one place to start the story. But let us begin with this picture, because it says so much while saying little. We hardly need tell you the time—1907;

it obviously is not 1807, or 1947. The place—an empty lot at 1000 Madison avenue, with the old George Sikora tavern in the background.

Standing (left to right) are Joe Krozser, Joe Polson, Pete Schermer, Pic Nickols, an unidentified youngster, Jake Schermer and John Oldal. In the lower row are Tom Harris, Frank Clinton and "Red" Gunn. No, we don't know the dogs' names. Now, continue the review of Madison history on the following pages.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**MONDAY, JUNE 27 LADIES' DAY**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 28 YOUTH DAY**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29 ILLINOIS DAY**  
 Premiere Performance of  
 "THE MADISON STORY"  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 30 OLD SETTLERS' DAY**  
 "THE MADISON STORY"  
**FRIDAY, JULY 1 BARGAIN DAYS**  
 "THE MADISON STORY"  
**SATURDAY, JULY 2 PARADE DAY**  
 "THE MADISON STORY"  
**SUNDAY, JULY 3 GRAND FINALE—DAY OF THE FUTURE**  
 Final Performance of  
 "THE MADISON STORY"  
**MONDAY, JULY 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY PICNIC**



## JUBILEE CHAIRMEN

<b>MAYOR STEPHEN MAERAS</b> GENERAL CHAIRMAN	<b>HARRY THEBEAU</b> SPECTACLE DIVISION
<b>MIKE SASYK</b> ACTIVE GENERAL CHAIRMAN	<b>MRS. MAXINE COSTOFF</b> REVENUE CHAIRMAN
<b>EMMETT PAZIA</b> HEADQUARTERS CHAIRMAN	<b>HARRY R. JOHNSON</b> SPECIAL DAYS CHAIRMAN
<b>LARRY PALKES</b> PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN	<b>WAYNE SCANNELL</b> PARTICIPATION CHAIRMAN
<b>ED DUBISH</b> TREASURER	<b>NORMAN OWCA</b> SPECIAL EVENTS CHAIRMAN
<b>JACK FRIEDMAN</b> SPECTACLE DIVISION	<b>AVERY SCHERMER</b> SPECTACLE TICKET CHAIRMAN
<b>MRS. JULIA VOLOSKI</b> PARTICIPATION CHAIRMAN	

# Fast-Developing Madison Achieved Most of Growth in First Two Decades

Madison, unlike many municipalities, enjoyed rapid growth in its first years.

The history of the Madison area can be traced back to the time centuries ago when Indian tribes roamed the flood-plains, to the time when the first white men arrived in the 1780s, or to the time when Madison county was created in 1812.

But Madison's basic story began in the 1880s with a meeting of merchants who wanted to find a location for manufacturing plants on the Illinois side of the Mississippi River to avoid paying the cost of transporting coal to Missouri over the Eads Bridge at East St. Louis.

The industrialists formed the Madison Land Syndicate, also known as the Cool Land Syndicate, which began acquiring land and also promoted the construction of the Merchants Bridge, a railroad bridge started in 1887 and completed in May 1890. From the start, this bridge served to divert St. Louis capital to Illinois.

## Purchased for \$117,800

The syndicate bought the present site of Madison for \$117,800 in March 1889 from William and Nancy Sippy, who had used it as a farm.

The Madison Car Co., also known as the Missouri Car & Foundry Co., was incorporated in 1890 and construction of plant facilities was started the same year. Business places sprang up immediately, with George Latch operating the first saloon. The foundry was completed the next year and was immediately put into operation.

Other facilities started in 1891 were the Standard Oil Barrel Works, the Merchants Bridge roundhouse and a large grain elevator. Only eight families initially lived here, but about 2500 men soon were employed at the various industries.

Most of the 2500 were taken back and forth over the bridge each day on a work train. Some did not prefer so much riding, and prevailed upon the car company to erect two long rows of houses to be used as residences for their families. Along with the scattering of business places, there was a brick three-story hotel, the Iron Age, operated by Pleasant Ward.

## Acute Housing Shortage

The influx of workers created a severe housing shortage and a town was laid out. Incorporation as a village took place in November 1891, forming the basis for this year's 75th anniversary jubilee.

Dr. Charles S. Youree was recorded as the first village president, with Robert McGlow as village clerk and Charles C. Skeen, Patrick Coyle, Warren S. Champion, Owen Bagby, Gabriel Peppers and John R. Beale as first trustees. Peppers had operated a farm here for many years.

Patrick McCambridge, a deputy sheriff, became chief of police. S. B. Rhodes was the pioneer real estate promoter.

Electric arc street lights were installed and a Presbyterian Church was built.

In 1892 there was an unexpected flood and the whole village found itself under water. Damage was repaired in a few days, and all of the bustling activity was resumed within a short time.

Skeen, listed in some versions as the original village president, took office in 1893, the year that saw the beginning of the Madison public school system. Postmaster Champion headed the village in 1894 and 1895. He was preceded as postmaster by George Coudy, co-founder of a lumber company, whose "office" was his coat pocket.



**OLDTIME PARADE FLOAT** about 1911 consisted of this horse and buggy decorated with red, white and blue bunting. The F. Lueders store at Sixth and Madison was proclaimed as sole dealer for Bakers stoves and ranges, examples of which were carried on the float. The driver, Paul Berger, was holding his daughter, Vera Berger (Scott), on his lap.

## Hand-Drawn Fire Truck

By 1894, the village could boast of a hand-drawn fire truck which cost \$250.

Coyle and Champion became contenders for the village presidency in 1896. Coyle was chosen and began a tenure that was to continue until 1905.

With the housing shortage continuing, the official population in 1900 was 1879. There were many more than that working in Madison, but large numbers continued to commute from Missouri.

The census figure soared to 5046 by 1910, making the first decade of this century the greatest growth period of all for Madison.

When the river levee broke in 1903, Madison was flooded for about ten days and the effects of the flood were felt for many months. Water stood five and six feet deep at many points, and the wooden sidewalks floated away.

In the same year as the flood, the Tri-City State Bank was organized. Three years later, the First National Bank was established, with Frank Troeckler as president and Champion as cashier.

## State Street First Paved

State street was the first to be paved. In 1905, it was bricked from the southern village limits to Seventh street. Third street was next, the paving also being brick and extending from State to Alton avenue.

Ferdinand A. Garsche became president in 1905, starting a 32-year occupancy of the office. A lawyer and a former St. Louisan of French descent, he also served as state representative and chairman of the Democratic party. He was nominated as lieutenant governor of Illinois in 1924.

Madison's village hall on Third street was erected in 1907 out of accumulated surplus funds.

The first major fire occurred in 1908, when the Waschauer department store burned. It occupied a half block on the west side of Madison avenue between the Hinde building and Third street. No lives were lost but virtually the entire village was threatened by the blaze.

A Baptist Church was built in 1908.

Madison avenue for the entire length of the village and Seventh street from State street to Madison avenue were given a hard surface with wooden crenosote blocks in 1909.

## Recession Reduces Taverns

A cutback in operation of local

plants, beginning in 1908, caused much unemployment. The number of taverns operated in Madison dropped from 68 to 35, reflecting the economic pinch. By 1912, the figure was back up to 67, estimated to be one tavern for every 75 residents.

The volunteer fire department was reorganized in 1910 and a fire wagon with two typical dashing horses was substituted for the hand truck.

In 1913, the firemen, under the leadership of Chief Pearl Smith, erected a handsome building described as the only one of its kind in Illinois.

A Methodist Church was dedicated in 1914 in a Fifth street building previously occupied by a long-distance telephone exchange. It was at this exchange that Carl Ulfers, later an official of Southwestern Bell, got his start as an office boy.

A general sewer system was constructed in 1917 and 1918.

Madison's third bank, the Union Trust Co., was organized in 1919. Free mail delivery service started in 1920.

## Helmbacher Mill Destroyed

A spectacular fire occurred Dec. 15, 1920. A rolling mill connected with the American Car & Foundry, the Helmbacher mill, burned down. Firemen from Madison, Granite City and Venice battled the blaze, assisted by several fire companies from St. Louis.

It was a windy day, and small fires broke out all over Madison.

The mill had flourished for many years, employing as many as 200 persons, but did not resume operations after the fire.

By the 1920s, illegal speakeasies and stills were numerous here. One prohibition enforcement raid in 1920 on five Madison stills destroyed 1500 gallons of raisin mash, 100 gallons of "white mule" and nine tanks of "moonshine" whisky.

While pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Father D. L. Scully twice led "dry raids" and broke hundreds of bottles of liquor in his anger over sales to young people.

In 1923, the fire department was modernized and a new truck was purchased. The original Presbyterian Church burned in 1924, and a new church was built and dedicated in 1926.

Fourth and Fifth streets were paved in 1925, followed by Madison avenue, State street and East Third street in 1928. The same year, a Madison avenue "white

way" lighting system was installed.

## Madison Buys Bridge

The Chain of Rocks bridge was purchased by the village of Madison in 1939 for \$2,300,000 from the Kingshighway Bridge Co. This set the pattern for later purchase of the McKinley Bridge by Venice.

The McKinley Bridge originally had been opposed by Venice officials, who delayed authorization for hauling of freight along Main street and Broadway. So stout was the Venice opposition in 1907 that the bridge backers for a time studied whether the Mississippi River span could be made to connect instead with Madison.

Later the same year, approval was given after it was brought out that the local area would become an important terminus on a street car system extending from St. Louis to Chicago. The War Department gave its approval, the first caisson was placed in the river Dec. 8, 1907, and it was possible to start passenger car service between St. Louis and the Quad-Cities Oct. 1, 1910, stimulating further growth of Madison as well as the other local municipalities.

The Broadway railroad viaduct was built in 1937, greatly improving travel between Madison and Venice.

## 7661 Population in 1930

Population of Madison had been listed as 7661 in 1930, but dropped during the depression years.

Robert Dron succeeded Garsche as head of the village in 1937.

In October 1941, Madison celebrated its 50th anniversary as a village by holding a celebration that lasted a full week.

Less than one year later, the citizens voted to incorporate as a city. This ended Dron's presidency after five years; it had been an eventful period that included acquisition of the bridge.

The present mayor, Stephen A. Maeras, a local businessman and accountant, was elected as Madison's first mayor. He had previously served as village trustee and as a member and president of the board of education.

He immediately acted to set up a city plan commission. The commission was set up and was affiliated with the State of Illinois Post War Plan Commission. Maeras followed suggestions of the federal government for communities desiring government aid, and a program of public improvements was laid out.

## Postwar Prosperity

During the immediate postwar years, Madison underwent a period of prosperity. As industries prospered there was more and more need for manpower and the population grew.

Returning servicemen were marrying and another housing shortage developed. Quonset huts were erected to relieve the situation.

Plans were made to construct a war memorial. A suitable plot composed of 21 city lots was purchased in 1945 at Seventh street and Life avenue. Funds were raised both by solicitation and obligation bonds.

Plans were broadened and included a second memorial center in West Madison.

A five-member Board of Recreation and Playground Directors was appointed to operate and direct the recreational and playground facilities and supervise the memorial centers.

Madison's public library was erected in 1947. It was financed for the city by the Madison fire department.

In October 1948, the memorial center recreation hall was opened and dedicated.

## New High School Built

It was a time for school expansion, too. In 1945 plans were made for additions to the Louis Bier and Dunbar schools and for a new high school which would allow conversion of the old high school into the present junior high.

The old Madison high had been built in 1914 when the enrollment was only 51 students; in 1948, there were 462 high school students.

In the same period, 1914 to 1948, overall school population jumped from 1215 students to 2198.

Madison since has continued to improve its public facilities.

The last trolley ran through Madison in 1958 as buses replaced street cars.

In 1964, Madison acquired an industrial park which it is currently endeavoring to develop. Proceeds for the city government would make up for those received until now from the Chain of Rocks Bridge—soon to be faced with intense competition from a nearby free bridge.

## Kidnap Victim Held In Madison in 1933

In the famous August Luer kidnapping at Alton in 1933, the banker and meat packer was held for a time in the basement of a store building at Sixth and State streets, Madison.

Quad-Cityans predominated in the group of eight suspects rounded up afterward. Four received life sentences, one was given a 20-year prison term and two received five-year terms.

An attempt was made to kidnap Herman Schermer, Madison businessman, in June 1931. When he fought his three assailants and called for help, they fled.

The kidnapping and robbery danger was regarded as so great at one time that sending of payroll shipments by registered mail was ordered stopped.

## Madison 50th Year Celebration in 1941

The "jitterbug" was danced at a festival celebrating the golden jubilee of the village of Madison Oct. 6-12, 1941.

Executive committee for the 50-year fete consisted of Chairman Bruce Champion, Mayor Robert Dron, E. F. Wagner, J. R. Alcott, E. A. Friedman, Stephen Maeras, Ralph Johns, Austin Lewis and Francis Lahey.



## Bruce Champion and Madison Are Twins

Bruce Champion regards himself and Madison as "twins," and with some justification.

Madison was born as a village in 1891. Champion was born in 1891, in Madison. He is believed to be the first child born in the new village.

Still active at the age of 75 as president of the Sparta Federal Savings and Loan Association, Champion was a speaker at the Madison County Historical Society meeting held in Madison this weekend in connection with the diamond jubilee celebration.

He also is scheduled to speak Wednesday night, June 29, and will be honored in Saturday's jubilee parade, in which he is to ride with Mayor Stephen Maeras.

### Father Was Mayor

His father, Warren Champion, at one time was active in the Robinson Lumber Co. and was one of the organizers of the First National Bank in Madison. He served as mayor of the village in 1894-95, the third to hold that office. Postmaster at one time, he was a charter member of the village board of trustees.

The son, Bruce, became "mas-



**BRUCE CHAMPION** as he appeared in 1891.

cot" of the Madison volunteer fire department and eventually rose all the way from mascot to chief.

Graduating from Madison high school, Bruce Champion joined his father in the real estate and



**AS HE APPEARS TODAY**, still active in his 75th year.

insurance business in 1910.

With his father and his brother, Ralph, he helped organize the Madison Building & Loan Association, predecessor of the present Madison County Federal Savings & Loan Association.

## Two Recreation Centers Dedicated in 1948

It was on Oct. 19, 1948, that Madison dedicated two world war II memorial recreation centers—Project No. 1, a recreation hall and swimming pool at Seventh and L streets; and Project No. 2, a recreation hall and wading pool at Third and Washington streets, West Madison.

They were dedicated with a parade and speaking program "in honor" and in memory of those gallant and courageous sons of Madison who gave their very all in the cause of democracy.

Principal speakers were Illinois Secretary of State Edward J. Barrett, Cong. Melvin Price, Chief Assistant State's Attorney A. Austin Lewis and Mayor Stephen Maeras. The mayor's young daughter, Penny Joy Maeras, cut the ribbon to the memorial center entrance.

Other participants in the program were Postmaster Ralph O. Johns, president of the city playground and recreation board, Madison County School Supt. George T. Wilkins, Joseph W. Bergrath, chairman of the veterans' organizations' dedication committee, Rev. Engelbert Bienek, Rev. Ernest L. Combes, the Venice-Madison American Legion Post 307 color guard and rifle squad, the Madison high school band and Madison grade school band, both led by George E. Thomas, and the Louis Baer junior high chorus, directed by Mrs. Jo Ann Jones.

### Public Dance

The Johnny Karoly orchestra provided music for a public dance that evening in the memorial auditorium, attended by "youngsters, both old and young."

City officials at the time included Aldermen John Bridick, Emil Ulański, Harry Cook, Charles McMahan, Leo Kozielek, Stanley Lucas, Steve Kelio, Paul Klyasheff, John H. Haynes and Arthur Strauther, City Clerk Percy Lux, City Treasurer Chester L. McManaway, Police Magistrate Louis C. Spohr, City Collector Edward J. Miller, Corporation Counsel A. Austin Lewis, Building Inspector Vincent Scrum and Plumbing Inspector Pete Markuly.

Members of the City Plan Commission were George T. Wilkins, chairman, Mrs. Irene Hilt, secretary, and E. A. Friedman, Mrs. Mary Lahey, Lee Ashlock, Ralph Johns, Mrs. Ada Lum,

Mrs. Ruth Fogle, William Gushleff, Elmer Noonan and Steve Kurilla.

Planning for a pool and memorial was started in 1945 by Johns and Maeras, with several meetings held at Harris grade school. Architects were hired and 21 city lots at Seventh and Lee were purchased from the Cool Land Syndicate of St. Louis for \$1753 on Jan. 30, 1945.

### Contributions by Residents

Contributions were accepted from citizens, including school pupils, and \$12,706 was raised. When the lowest bid totaled \$76,000, the project was stalled.

The War Production Board next "froze" all but home construction, but a permit was obtained with the help of Cong. Price and U. S. Senator Scott W. Lucas.

The city sold \$100,000 in revenue bonds. However, the lowest of new bids was \$132,000, and the plan was dropped for a time.

Issuance of general obligation bonds was authorized by voters and it was found possible to proceed with the construction at a cost of about \$75,000.

As a related project, a net-

work of neighborhood playgrounds was established in the late 1940s.

### Plan New Usage of Area

The swimming pool has been closed for many years and its equipment has not been maintained, making future reopening unlikely due to the cost of repairs. At the time of the closing, the city council formally placed pool repairs low on a list of improvements it said were needed in the city. It voted to act on the list of projects in the order in which they appeared on the list.

Several months ago a Madison Rotarian suggested during a club luncheon that the pool be filled, with a scenic park and band shell or other facilities created. Mayor Maeras was present and said this might be feasible, since costs made pool repairs prohibitive.

An architect is now drawing up plans for possible utilization of the recreation center grounds, including the pool area.

The two memorial centers remain in regular use for teenage dances, club meetings and other community activities.

## Maeras Has Led City Government Since 1942

Stephen A. Maeras and the city of Madison have become almost synonymous. He is the only mayor the municipality has had since it became a city.

Elected as the first mayor when Madison switched from village government in 1942, he was re-elected in 1945, 1949, 1953, 1957, 1961 and 1965. At 59, he is less than eight years away from breaking Ferdinand Garesche's continuous service record of 32 years as village president.

Maeras' long list of public service includes: member and president of the Madison board of education; member and president of the village board of trustees; chairman of the University district, Boy Scouts of America, for three years; president of the Madison Rotary club; Odd Fellows noble grand; and Madison chairman, Community Chest, Red Cross and United Fund.

Other affiliations have included the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce board, Madison Lions club, March of Dimes, Tri-City Odd Fellows Lodge 1031, Com-

munity Chest board and Cahokia Mound Boy Scout Council executive board.

### Accountant, Realtor

Born in Rumania, Maeras is a graduate of Madison high school and the LaSalle Extension University, Chicago, where he majored in commerce and finance. He later attended the Washington University School of Commerce and Finance.

A realtor, insurance agent and accountant, Maeras has been associated with Frank Fijan in the real estate and insurance business in Madison since 1944.

He is married and the father of a son and daughter, both married.

Maeras worked as a salesman and accountant for Christ L. Louis at the Madison Coal and Feed Co. from 1928 to 1940 before heading the general accounting department at General Steel's Armor Plant beginning in 1941. He also was with the defense plant while it was operated by Standard Steel Springs. The plant is now operated by Dow Chemical Co.

## Garesche Led Village For 32 of Its 51 Years

Ferdinand A. Garesche, according to an early history, "first let the sound of his voice be heard Dec. 16, 1875, in St. Louis county."

Before his voice was stilled by death in 1933, he was to lead Madison for 32 of the 51 years it was a village. It has been a city for the past 24 years, rounding out the 75-year jubilee now being celebrated.

So enduring was his presidency that it extended from the time the village was a mere 14 years old, 1905, until 1937, when Madison was within five years of the change to city government under its first and only mayor, Stephen Maeras.

Ruling the municipality and his political organization with a firm hand, he left his imprint on Madison, Madison county and Illinois. Even today, his name lives on in the title of the Garesche public housing project in Madison.

In the flowery language of the first decade of this century, it was noted that he "enjoyed the tranquility of peaceful home life under the careful grooming of his parents until he became 15 years of age. He then entered the portals of St. Louis University, where he remained and studied and mastered his lessons for seven years."

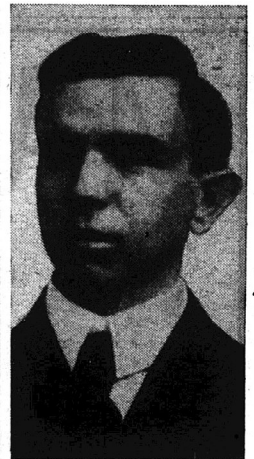
### Began as Office Boy

"Mr. Garesche left college and took a position with the Missouri Car & Foundry Co. in November 1897 as office boy. His faithful service with that company, which has since become the American Car & Foundry Co., resulted in his gradual promotion from place to place until about one year ago (1907), when he left the position of chief clerk to become paymaster for the company."

"He was first elected as president of the village board of trustees in November 1905, being re-elected in 1907."

"In the short time which he has directed the affairs of the village, great improvements have been made, the most important of them being the paving of four blocks of street, laying of four miles of sidewalk, building the city hall, securing a fire department and planting 1500 shade trees."

It was predicted that there



**FERD GARESCHÉ** in his first term as village president.

would be "much further improvement" of the village.

Although retiring as mayor in 1937 after countless further improvements had been achieved, Garesche continued his association with American Car & Foundry until his death.

He held the additional office of state representative continuously from 1912 to 1924, and was master-in-chancery in 1933-38.

He was the Democratic lieutenant governor nominee in 1924, and also served as attorney for the East Side Levee & Sanitary District.

## Counting Sheep - But Not to Sleep

"Venice Township Sorely Lacking in Sheep" was the headline prompted by a 1907 assessment report showing no sheep on the tax rolls.

The news article pointed out that despite the apparent shortage, a raid by two patrolmen rounded up over 100 sheep.

It was noted that in 1907, Madison county assessment records listed 2851 sheep, 12,471 horses, 19,378 cattle, 3227 mules, 19,215 hogs, 95 pool tables and other tables, 7386 carriages, 3304 watches and clocks, 2989 sewing machines, 1207 pianos and 375 organs.

Despite the lack of assessed sheep, Venice township was second richest in Madison county at the time, topped only by Alton on the assessment rolls.

## Dealer in Stoves Once Spent 5 Years on Ship

Described early this century as "one example of will power in Madison," Fred Luaders was a dealer in stoves and general house furnishings.

Born in Germany a century ago, he spent five years working on an American ship before going to St. Louis to drive horses. He began work in 1898 with David Waschauer, also a German immigrant, who operated the "Big Store."

Six years later, he left to open his own business.

He was no relation to the Fred Luaders whose son is Henry Luaders, Granite City realtor.



**TAX FREE ORDINANCE** being signed by Mayor Maeras in September 1951, eliminating property taxes for operation of the city government for one year.





**ORIGINAL MADISON SCHOOL.** The student body poses in front of the first Harris grade school. Built in 1893, it was replaced

in 1960 by the present Harris school at the same site in the 600 block of Alton avenue.

## Harris First Public School, Open in 1893

Madison public schools date back 73 years to 1893, when a six-room schoolhouse was erected. It consisted of the front section of Harris school; only three of the rooms were finished at the time.

Professor Louis Baer took charge and, with Mrs. Richardson and Miss Mollie O'Brien, taught 63 pupils that year. Enrollment now tops 3000.

Blair and Dunbar schools were added, the latter in 1905. Dunbar was expanded in 1911.

### First High School

Two additions were built onto the original Harris school in 1914, and a high school building was constructed and dedicated that year, located on Third street.

In 1915, the first superintendent, Louis Baer, died and was succeeded by J. W. Jackson.

Seven years later, a school was built and named in honor of Supt. Baer. The same year, 1922, another Dunbar addition was built, followed by another in 1936 and still another in 1943.

The original high school was expanded with construction of an auditorium-gymnasium in 1930, and the school continued being used as a high school until 1952, when the present Madison high school building was completed and opened. The Third street

building became Madison junior high school.

Additions to Louis Baer school were constructed in 1955 and 1962.

### Two Schools Replaced

The original Harris and Blair schools were torn down in 1959 and replaced by new schools in 1960.

A \$600,000 bond issue was approved by voters Dec. 4, 1965, to add and equip 14 classrooms and other facilities at Madison high school and Dunbar school.

Louis Baer school is one of four schools in Madison named after individuals. W. T. Harris was a St. Louis educator, Francis Blair was an Illinois state school superintendent and Paul L. Dunbar was a poet and orator.

George T. Wilkins, Madison superintendent in 1943-47, served as state superintendent of public instruction from 1938 to 1962.

The six schools currently in use are Madison high school, Sixth and Farish streets, ninth through twelfth grades; Madison junior high, Third street and Alton avenue, seventh and eighth grades; Dunbar school, Jackson and West Third streets, kindergarten and fourth through eighth grades; Blair grade school, kin-

dergarten through third grade; Harris elementary school, kindergarten through third grade; and Louis Baer grade school, fourth through sixth grades.

### Board Presidents

Early Madison school board presidents included W. J. Franklin and John F. Berger.

Other Madison school presidents included: 1913-21, A. P. Stewart, 1921-24—Isaac Lewis, 1925-26—H. L. Brown, 1926-33—Fred J. Bonville, 1933-34—William Hannebrink, 1934-36, 40-43—Dr. R. A. Marshall, 1936-37—Robert Dron, 1937-40—Frank Hatscher, 1943—Claude Echols, 1943-44—Stephen Maeras, 1944-45—Percy Lux, 1945—John D. Burns, 1945-46, 1949-52—Claude Echols, 1946-49—Mrs. Irene Hilt, 1953-54—Charles Skinner and 1952-53, 1954 to present—John Bellicoff.

### Madison Superintendents

Madison school superintendents have been: 1893-1915—Louis Baer, 1915-17—J. W. Jackson, 1917-20, 21-28—Henry S. Stice, 1920-21—J. K. Ellwood, 1928-35, 36-43—Elroy W. Heob, 1935-36—R. H. Hamilton, 1943-47—George T. Wilkins, 1947-48—E. C. Long, 1948-49—Edwin J. O'Leary, 1949-52—Hadley D. McCain, and 1952 to present—Wensel L. Brown.

## St. Mary Parish, School Founded 54 Years Ago

History of the Church of St. Mary, under the patronage of Our Lady of Czenstochowa, in Madison covers a 54-year period.

The American Car & Foundry Co. began operating in 1891 and was responsible for a big influx of many European people, especially from Poland. In 1912, Father Peter Paul Koenders, pastor of St. Mark, Venice, the pioneer priest of the Illinois Bottoms, petitioned Right Rev. James Ryan, bishop of Alton, to permit the people of Polish origin in Madison to build a Catholic Church.

In July 1912, the bishop appointed Rev. William Wozniak as the first pastor of the new parish in Madison because he was familiar with the customs and manners of Slavic races. On Oct. 17, 1912, Bishop Ryan appointed Frank Kowalski and Adelbert Laskoski as first trustees of the church.

### Opened on Christmas

A new two-story frame building, containing a parochial residence, two classrooms and a church upstairs, was formally opened on Christmas Day, 1912.

In September 1913, two Franciscan Sisters from Gasconade street in St. Louis took charge of the two-room school. Because of the increasing number of children and lack of proper accommodations, the school was closed after a few years and all the children attended public schools.

In October 1924, Father Wozniak resigned as pastor and Rev. David L. Scully, assistant at St. Joseph's Church, Granite City, was appointed as pastor and immediately had plans drawn for a school building.

### New School Built

The ground was broken on May 19, 1925, for a brick building containing nine rooms and a church auditorium with seating capacity for 370. The new St. Mary school was formally opened Sept. 1, 1925, with an enrollment of 265.

The school was placed under the care of the Sisters of Divine Providence, noted for achievements in vocational and social work.

In 1926 the bishop appointed Rev. Anthony Tamolunas as the first assistant. After a short time he was replaced by Rev. Joseph Labano, who remained as assistant till 1930. In that year Fr. Scully was transferred and Rev. George Kenney was appointed as pastor; in 1931, Rev. L. J. Jacek became his assistant.

In 1935 Fr. Jacek was transferred and the following year, January 1936, Fr. Kenney died.

### Franciscans Assigned

Most Rev. James A. Griffin, bishop of Springfield, invited the Franciscan Fathers of the Sacred Heart Province to assume charge of the parish.

On Feb. 3, 1936, Rev. Engelbert Bienek, O.F.M., was appointed first Franciscan pastor, assisted by Rev. Placid Hermann, O.F.M., for a short while.

In 1936, Rev. Aubert Keuter, O.F.M., was appointed assistant and was replaced by Rev. Eusebius in 1940. In 1945, Rev. Laurin Euzynski, O.F.M., replaced Fr. Eusebius and, together with Harry I. Hellmuth, architect, aided the pastor in planning a new church.

Up to 1942, the parish was in poor financial circumstances; the depression years had impoverished the entire Madison population. The approaching world war II stimulated business again so that the total debt of \$44,000 was liquidated in 1944.

From that year on, all efforts were made to gather funds for a new church, priests' residence and Sisters' residence. For the latter, the Urban residence was purchased and enlarged to accommodate nine Sisters. It was occupied in 1952.

### Domed Church Constructed

With Most Rev. William A. O'Connor, bishop of Springfield, giving his approval, a unique domed church was planned. Ground was broken on Oct. 19, 1952 by Msgr. Brune of Alton, and the cornerstone was laid on May 24, 1953.

The parish, still led by Fr. Engelbert, has occupied the circular church since Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25, 1954.

The pastor gave much of the credit for the unique structure to Hellmuth, an authority on liturgy and ecclesiastical architecture.

### Madisonian Worked for Brick Firm 57 years

Walter Newsome, 76, of 909 Franklin street, Madison, worked for one employer, the Western Fire Brick Co., for nearly the entire span of Madison's 75-year history.

Newsome, who will be among those honored during jubilee festivities, began work for the firm Sept. 7, 1907, and did not retire until nearly 58 years later, March 1965. He was night kiln foreman.



**EIGHTH GRADE CLASS** of Harris school in 1911. Seated (left to right): Anna Schaefer, Loretta DeLong and Ruth Beardsley. Middle row: Julia Rydgig, Almada Berger, Mrs. Moore, teacher, and Ella McIntyre, Tillie Erickson, Lucille Baer and Hazel Rote. Back row: Paul Beardsley, Frank Clinton, Jake Schermer, George Brenner and Ira Ridge.



# Life of E. A. Friedman Has Spanned Every Decade of Madison History

Inseparable from the history of Madison or any other community are the names of its people—the men and women active in the development of its commerce, social life and governmental services.

William Friedman opened a Madison hardware store in January 1922 with his son, E. A. "Mannie" Friedman, who still operates the thriving hardware-furniture business with his son, Jack.

E. A. Friedman's life spans every decade of Madison history. A graduate of Madison high school and Washington University, where he received a law degree, he served as an Infantry lieutenant in world war I. President of the United Hebrew Congregation in Madison for nine years, he also organized and served as president of the Madison Parent-Teacher Association.

Active in the American Legion, Boy Scout council, Masonic order and B'nai B'rith, Friedman was Madison civilian defense coordinator in world war II. He later served as civil defense director, and remains active in the Madison CD program as natural disaster defense director. A charter member of the Madison Rotary club, he was honored by the club last year on his 40th anniversary as a Rotarian.

## Glik Founded Store in 1903

Morris Glik, philanthropist, operated a Madison department store beginning in 1903.

Largest contributor for a Madison swimming pool, he founded a visiting nurse organization here and furnished a children's ward at St. Elizabeth Hospital.

C. L. Jackson became a Madisonian in 1908 after studying merchandising in Palmyra and attending the University of Missouri and Eastman Business College. He was a realtor, landlord and constable.

C. H. Way, R. A. Murphy, A. H. Murphy and J. H. Robinson were associates in a contracting firm which built the Madison village hall.

## Postmasters, Doctor

Early postmasters included Mrs. James Coudy, 1887-1895, and E. W. Hülker, 1897-1909.

Dr. W. H. Grayson operated a medical office in the 200 block of Madison avenue.

Joseph Grenzer, Barber Asphalt traffic manager, was Madison city clerk, Madison County Housing Authority chairman from the time it was organized in 1941, Venice township supervisor and head of an insurance agency.

John F. Berger was once the Madison school board president, First Granite City Savings and Loan president 1929-45, St. Peter Evangelical and Reformed Church president and founder of a monument works.

## Iron Age Hotel

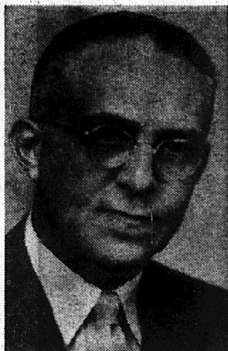
George W. Darling, Venice tax collector 16 years and an assistant supervisor, was proprietor of Madison's only hotel at one time, the Iron Age. Coming to Madison in 1901, he lived here until his death in 1944 at the age of 72.

Mrs. Fannie Allison was a teacher at Nameoki from 1879 to 1893, in Venice 1891 to 1893 and in Madison 1898 to 1927.

George T. Wilkins, who came to Madison from Thebes, Ill., in 1943 to become school superintendent, later was county school superintendent, 1955 district Rotary governor and 1958-62 state school superintendent.

Edwin F. Wagner served as president of the American Bottlers of Carbonated Beverages and headed the Wagner Bottling Co.

M. S. Darrow, Barber Asphalt Co. plant manager until becoming



E. A. FRIEDMAN

ill in 1940, together with S. S. Eagle of American Car and Foundry Co. organized the East Side Manufacturers Association. Darrow alternated with Eagle for many years as president of the association.

## First Street Car Line

George Miller, captain of a Mississippi River ferry boat and operator of an ice cream store, also operated the first street car line—three electric cars ran on 18th, Adams and 21st streets and Madison avenue to the river. He was a newspaper dealer 38 years.

James Popovsky organized the Madison County Foreign Languages Association at the start of world war II, sold thousands of dollars worth of war bonds and aided many war activities. Operator of the Standard Calendar Co., he helped organize the Podkrepa Society, which he headed several terms.

Eugene McKnight served as editor of the Madison Republic until his death in 1914. His funeral procession was headed by Mayors Garesche and Lee of Madison and Venice.

Christ Geroff was a real estate operator in Madison for many years. His sons, Val and Steve, are both dentists, the latter having served on the Madison school board from 1954 to 1966.

Christ Louis operated the Madison Coal & Feed Co., in which his son, James, is still active.

## Woman Board President

Mrs. Irene Hilt has had the distinction of bringing a feminine approach to the duties of president of the Madison board of education. Her son, Dale Hilt, is secretary of the Madison county tax review board.

Mrs. Margaret Harlan, widow of Dr. Lee C. Harlan, is a club, church, civic and library leader.

Louis Spohr was Madison police magistrate for a number of years.

Austin Lewis held the position of probate judge and now serves as an associate circuit judge. He is a former president of the Venice school board and for many years served as attorney for the Venice park and school boards and Madison school board, and as corporation counsel of the city of Madison.

## Famous Clothing Store Provided Shoes to Hot

"The Famous," a general clothing and dry goods bazaar at Third and Madison, was operated early in this century by F. Dubinsky, offering "anything, at reasonable prices, for man, woman or child, from the shoes up to the feather on the hat."

The proprietor was born in 1879 in Russia, came to the U. S. at the age of nine and attended public schools in St. Louis. He opened a store in St. Louis, selling it in 1902 to engage in the same line in North Venice, and then moved to the Third street location in 1903.

## Familiar Names Among Village Officeholders

Village government officeholders in 1906 in Madison included names prominent in the history of the 75-year span now being commemorated.

F. A. Garesche had begun his long service as president, and members of the board of trustees were John J. Malone, Henry Conole, J. J. Lahey, Ernest Hatcher and William E. McMahon. There was a board vacancy because Dr. William F. Grayson had just moved from Madison.

Carl A. Uffers was village clerk, W. J. Franklin village attorney, Letcher Owsley collector, William Turnbaugh street commissioner, George D. Evans milk inspector, C. W. Burton village treasurer and C. L. Gibbs, police magistrate.

Patrick McCambridge was police chief and his force consisted of John Meehan, William Street, William Gilleland, Harry M. Morris, Clarence E. Blance, Charles Ramsey, John Cowan, Joseph Taylor and Peter Miller. Conole was editor of the Madison Tribune. Born in 1871 at Berdan, Ill., he had taught school, served with Gen. Lawton in a Spanish-American War expedition to Cuba and became timekeeper at the American Car & Foundry Co. in 1901. He later was magistrate six terms.

## Forge, Rolling Mill

McMahon, born in 1874 in Troy, N. Y., learned the trade of making collars and cuffs, trained in rolling mills there and then became a rougher at the Helmbacher Forge & Rolling Mill Co., Madison.

Burton was cashier of the Tri-City State Bank, which he organized in 1903 shortly after coming to Madison.

Hatcher and August Mueller operated a thriving grocery, hay and feed business on Third street, plus several warehouses. They employed 18 men. Hatcher was born in Oldenburg, Germany, in 1869 and came to Madison in 1898, later serving as vice-president of the Retail Merchants Association. Mueller, born in Nessenburg, Germany, in 1868, attended Shurtleff College and served as a teacher and principal in Madison county before joining Hatcher in business in 1904.

Magistrate Gibbs was born in 1844 in Greenwich, Mass., worked as a railroad land agent in Des Moines, Ia., opened a drug store in Concordia, Kan., entered the hardware business at Rodgers, Ark., and then moved to Madison to engage in the real estate business. He served numerous magistrate terms, starting in 1892.

## Assessor, Attorney

Franklin was a Clinton county school teacher, was admitted to the practice of law in 1900, served as Irishtown township assessor for a term and moved in 1901 to Madison, where he became village attorney and served as school board president four successive terms. Born in 1871, he lived to an advanced age and was blind in the later years.

Evans came to Madison in 1902 from New York to engage in the carpenter and contracting business.

## Father-Son Butchers

Theodore Harman and his son, L. J. Harman, operated a meat and vegetable market on Fifth street near Madison avenue beginning in 1907. A former Davenport, Ia., saloon operator, the elder Harman came here in 1906 and started the butcher business with his son as partner.

ness. Later he operated the Evans & Helfers confectionery, handling cigars, tobacco, ice cream, stationery and periodicals.

Turnbaugh, street commissioner and plumbing inspector, was born shortly after the end of the Civil War, at Pittsfield, Ill. He engaged in farming, blacksmithing and the real estate business, coming to Madison in 1899 to work for the car foundry. He served on the school board. He built a new home in 1906 and eventually acquired considerable other real estate.

## Dow Producing Metal At Former War Plant

A relative newcomer to 75-year-old Madison but a pioneer in its field, the Dow Chemical Company's metal products plant was established 15 years ago.

It was one of the first in the world equipped to manufacture wrought products from magnesium on a mass scale.

Until 1956 a magnesium rolling mill, the Dow plant has since been engaged also in the making of aluminum products. Officially known as The Dow Chemical Company, Madison Plant, it employs a work force of about 1100.

Annual production of aluminum and magnesium products in castings, extruded strips and roll-pressed sheets and plates exceeds 50,000 tons.

## Built as War Plant

The plant was established in 1951 when Dow bought a deactivated world war II plant. Building floor space was expanded to 1,400,000 square feet and new and modern equipment installed included some of the largest rolling mills and extrusion presses in the world.

Dow in recent years has been one of the most rapidly expanding chemical companies.

Aluminum production became important in the manufacture of aircraft during world war II. Magnesium is a more recently developed metal. Both are light in weight, with high tensile strength. Besides being used in aircraft, both metals play a major part in the manufacture of missiles and spacecraft.

## Magnesium in Satellite

Magnesium produced at Madison made up much of Telstar I, the history-making radio-telecommunications earth satellite.

The Madison plant is one of over 30 widely distributed Dow plants in the United States.

It is devoted solely to metal products, while others manufacture industrial chemicals, plastics, agricultural chemicals and textile fibers.

Magnesium production utilizes a process of extracting magnesium from sea water which Dow developed during world war II.

## 1890 Discovery

Incorporation of Madison as a village was still a year away when a young chemist in 1890 at Midland, Mich., discovered an electrolytic process for extracting chemicals from brine. The young man was Herbert, Henry Dow.

Magnesium was one of the elements Dow, working in a rented barn, extracted from the brine. Dow Chemical Co. was established soon afterward.

Dow officials speak of a "will to progress" in describing individual and group effort, research

## Madison, Venice Vied For Township Office

Moving of the Venice township relief office from Madison to Venice in January 1938 touched off a controversy in which shots were fired, arrests were made and the former office location was picketed.

Constables were called in to help restore order. The office since has been returned to Madison—1502 Fifth street.

Venice township supervisors have included: 1906-08—Patrick F. Crielley; 1908-37—Pearl Smith; 1937-45—Joseph Grenzer; 1945-53—Elmer Noonan; and since 1953, Arthur W. "Cooper" Moore.

development and production methods which have resulted in steady increases in employment and sales. During the first decade the new plant doubled its staff and more than tripled its sales.

## Huge Extrusion Presses

Its massive 5500-ton and 13,200-ton extrusion presses place the company in a position to out-produce most manufacturers of aluminum beam sections. Only Alcoa and Harvey Aluminum can match its capabilities in this field. A new 1800-ton press this year is enabling Dow to compete in the soft aluminum alloy commercial market.

A process and engineering development program has led to many new products. A high-temperature magnesium-thorium alloy is now much used in missile construction. Magnesium is also used in electronic and cathodic protection, luggage and equipment for handling corrosive materials.

Overall goal is utilization and expansion of the facilities for mass production of a broad range of semi-fabricated aluminum, magnesium and other metal mill products.

## Record Production in 1965

Gerhard Ansel, plant manager, reported a 20% increase in production, setting an all-time high in 1965. Magnesium for luggage and aluminum for Boeing 727 and 737 aircraft figured heavily in this growth.

Basic rolled products for general industrial applications, and general extruded products also were strong commercial contributors. Dow is the only successful developmental supplier of extruded landing mat for the Army, Navy and Air Force.

This is currently being widely used in Vietnam to provide landing fields for U. S. jets and helicopters.

Ansel has been manager since 1962. His predecessors were Robert E. McNulty, 1951-55; Hubert Fruehauf, 1955-58; and Herbert H. Lyon, 1958-62.

## Tank Hauls, Axles

The Madison plant occupies facilities known as the Armor Plant and as the Standard Steel Springs Corp., during production of war materials in world war II.

Built and initially operated under supervision of General Steel Industries for production of cast armor tank hulls, the \$14 million structure later was altered to produce large truck axles for defense purposes.

Specially designed, with all new equipment, the war plant was one of the most modern in the nation. The high percentage of wall and roof area devoted to windows drew much attention at the time.

# Old Man River Once Rolled Through Madison

Early Quad-City residents survived the inundation of 1883, but flood waters filled most of the streets to a depth of five feet, forcing many people to leave temporarily.

They returned, clean the area, repaired damage and resumed their way of life, only to be flooded again in 1892 despite additions to the levee height. The new surge of the Mississippi left a trail of filth requiring extensive cleaning.

In 1903, the series of periodic major floods came to an end when another torrent of water spread over the river banks, broke through the levee and flooded the Quad-Cities, making it impossible to remain except in upper stories.

Madison and the remainder of this community have not had to undergo further river flooding since the yearly "June rise" of the river in 1903, and the high levee of the mid-1960s precludes danger from this source.

There have been several serious flood threats since the turn of the century. But the "great flood" of 1903 still ranks as the most widely destructive occurrence in the history of the Quad-Cities.

**Attributed to Heavy Snow**  
Unusually heavy layers of snow had accumulated in western ranges of the Rocky mountains in the winter of '02-'03. The spring thaw swelled the Missouri and Mississippi and built up pressure on the levees.

When the Madison levee broke in early June, parts of Venice, Brooklyn, East St. Louis and Madison were blanketed with water.

The next day, railroad embankments holding back the water in North Venice broke and the damage spread northward. On this same day, the Cross levee north of Granite City crumbled and brown water rushed into West Granite City and Hungary Hollow, reaching the eaves of homes.

Granite City proper was protected for a time by high roadbeds of the Wabash, Big Four and Chicago & Alton railroads. But this was not to last.

Carl Pierce, a resident at the time, recalled seeing "water pouring over the tracks in three-terraced falls over a mile long. Coal sheds and loose wood from houses in the Hollow had floated away and were lined up along the brink of the falls." Water at 18th and State streets rose to knee depth and then reached the first-floor level.

**Flight of Refugees**  
Refugees from Venice, Madison and West Granite had to move again, finally setting up tents and moving into vacant railroad cars.

A newspaper account related that on the night of June 8, 200 families left here by train for

Springfield and other areas, while 2000 more stood on the depot platform clamoring to be taken to safety.

"Railroads later began running excursion trains into Granite City and many people came to view the flood condition," Pierce wrote. "Owners of motor launches and small steamboats shipped passengers at 18th and State for sightseeing tours through the inundated area."

Grocers and vegetable dealers sent out peddlers in rowboats to aid marooned housewives.

**Trapped Water Released**  
By June 24, levees and railroad embankments holding trapped water were being cut. A dike protecting the Merchants bridge was opened, the railroad tracks being shored up temporarily with rocks.

Those ordered to vacate railroad cars moved to tents set up at a used wire mill until they could return to their homes.

Flood waters extensively damaged the Venice power plant. The Stamping Works and American Steel were shut down. Street cars were put out of service for a long period, and a fire resulting from the flood destroyed two buildings of the Markle Lead Works.

Countless houses were destroyed—with only the granite cooking utensils salvaged—and many other dwellings and businesses were badly damaged. Total loss was estimated in the millions of dollars.

**Excellent Fishing**  
Even such a tragedy had its humorous sidelights. Many of them dealt with stories about the size of fish caught during the high water, and some were true.

A long—seven and a half feet—and heavy—296 pounds—alligator gar was among the specimens caught.

Those in flood refugee camps raised national flags to designate different areas—including England, Poland, Hungary and Italy.

Wooden sidewalks literally moved out from underfoot, and sections were used by youngsters as rafts. Some walks floated downriver.

While the mighty Mississippi has been the major water menace, rainfall also has caused heavy flooding damage. Such a downpour on Oct. 17, 1906, damaged sewer lines and curbs.

**Slight Exaggeration**

On July 15, 1909, the Granite Press and Herald took pains to report: "Hundreds of homes are not under water in Venice. Two hundred citizens of Venice and Brooklyn did not work on the levee last night. The flood has not weakened the embankment. The Tri-Cities are not in danger of being inundated. Neither are we menaced by back water, despite the fact that the St. Louis papers say so."

Flood damage was recorded in

1915, and some local farms were flooded in 1927.

A Gabaret Island dike broke in 1929, causing some problems, and flooding of farms in June 1935 resulted in losses estimated at \$100,000.

**Bridge Forced to Close**

Flooding also was experienced in 1942, and the following year a levee break flooded Highway 66 and closed the Chain of Rocks Bridge from May 22 until July 12.

In 1944, E. G. Schmitt, chairman of the central control body of all war councils in the Quad-Cities, led a successful fight against a serious flood threat.

High school students and citizens volunteered to fill sandbags.

**Seven-Foot Water in Madison**

Typhoid shots were given in August 1946 as a cloudburst rather than a levee break caused \$250,000 flood damage.

Worst hit were Wilson Park and adjacent streets, Community Heights, Pontoon Beach, Tri-City Park, parts of West Granite and the northeastern area of Madison, where water reached a depth of seven feet in some places.

With the highway topped by 27 feet of water, the Chain of Rocks Bridge was closed for 17 days during flooding in June and July 1947.

Heavy rains regularly flooded Madison until installation of a major, new drainage system several years ago.

## Macedonians Operated Variety of Businesses

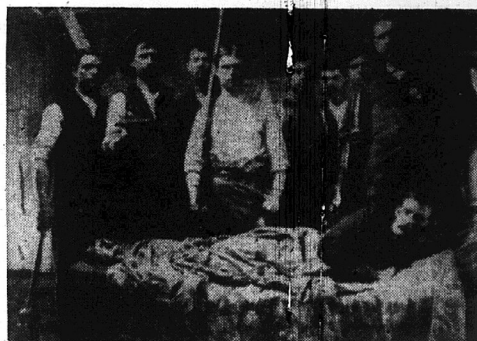
"Under the name of Lazaros & Evangelof there exists in Madison one of the staunchest and most flattering examples of American opportunity as seen by the sons of Macedonia," an early historical account related.

"N. Lazaros and George D. Evangelof have been in this country but five years, since 1903, and have been located at this place but four years.

"They possess a large building at 13th street and Madison avenue, which houses a saloon, grocery, bakery, dry goods, meat market, bath rooms, dancing hall and about 60 furnished rooms. It cost about \$65,000.

"It would be well for some of our home-bred Americans to take notice of the confident manner, personal reserve and constant energy which have made this business a phenomenal success of great magnitude in the short space of four years.

"The firm controls three buildings, all of which are brick, two of them being veneered. Each building is 50x127 feet and they make that end of town look like an aggregation of skyscrapers from a distance, each being three stories high. The firm also has property in Hammond, Ind."



**INJURED FLOOD HERO** John Van Riper on a cot at the Madison car shops, attended by General Foreman Fred Shipley (far right) and fellow workmen. His condition and the flood water necessitated his stay on the second floor of the office building.

## Car Foundry Employee Hero of Madison Flood

Hero of the June 1903 flood in Madison was John Van Riper, uncle of Mrs. John L. Carter, who resides at 1801 Third street, Madison.

A St. Louisan employed at the American Car & Foundry Co. in Madison, Van Riper was one of a squad of men whom General Foreman Fred Shipley had on duty at the plant building on the Sunday afternoon that the flood struck.

A wave from the south suddenly broke down the fence at the foundry and carried houses, logs and human beings with it, eyewitnesses related.

Van Riper, a witness said, "discovered a woman and a baby floating toward him, clinging to a telegraph pole. He saw

the woman struggle to hold to the pole. He then saw the angry waters tear the infant from her arms and threaten to toss her from the pole, also.

"He sprang for the pole as it passed near him. The end of it struck him in the knee as he touched the water, causing him intense pain. But he grasped the woman and brought her to a place of safety."

Exact circumstances relating to the child were not included in the report, but he was credited with saving both lives.

While his left leg and knee were recovering, he was confined to the second story of the plant office building, unable to return home to his wife for a time due to the severity of the injuries.

## Windstorms Few But Destructive

Earliest recorded destructive windstorm in this area occurred June 1, 1805. Homes were demolished, trees uprooted and stock killed. There were so few inhabitants that no deaths resulted, but several persons were hurt seriously by flying timbers.

Extensive tornado damage occurred here again in 1896, and windstorms have continued to strike periodically in this century.

The year of 1903 was marred not only by the great flood but by a tornado which struck on July 5, uprooting trees and blowing over 50 chimneys of Quad-City homes while rain fell in torrents. Two people were killed in St. Louis, one in East St. Louis and two on Chouteau Island.

A cyclone on Aug. 25, 1904, killed three here, wrecked homes, and damaged trees and telegraph poles.

Farms, orchards and trees suffered heavy damage in a cyclone which struck the Quad-Cities July 7, 1915.

**Destructive Tornado in 1927**

Worst wind damage in local history occurred Sept. 29, 1927, when a tornado ripped through Venice, Madison and part of Granite City, killing eight persons and injuring 50. Winds hit 90 miles an hour and damage was estimated at possibly a million dollars.

Taking nearly 100 lives in St. Louis, the twister struck at the foot of the McKinley Bridge, tore a huge hole in the power plant and wrecked more than a score of Venice homes. Venice Police Chief Michael Clifford was hurt fatally in the collapse of his home at 819 Third street.

A Madison man fell dead during the height of the storm, which veered through Madison after leaving Venice.

**Madisonians Killed at Plant**

Its parting lash before return-

ing into the heavens was the most tragic. The wind demolished the pig room at the local coke plant (St. Louis Coke and Iron Corp.) and overturned a ladle of molten iron onto seven workmen, killing six of them—two from Madison and four residing in Granite City.

Venice was designated as a disaster area, and a rehabilitation fund was started, with over \$16,000 raised.

A tornado lifted and passed over Madison in the late 1950s, damaging the McKinley Bridge toll station, located on the St. Louis end of the bridge.

## Bushell and Meehan Had Popular Buffets

Buffets were a principal business in Madison shortly after the turn of the century.

Among the most popular were those operated by M. M. Meehan at Third and Madison and John Bushell at Fourth and State.

Meehan was educated in Louisiana, Mo., secured work there pressing tobacco, later worked as a molder, came to Madison in 1893 to work at the American Car & Foundry and then drove a team of delivery horses for Anheuser Busch Brewing Co.

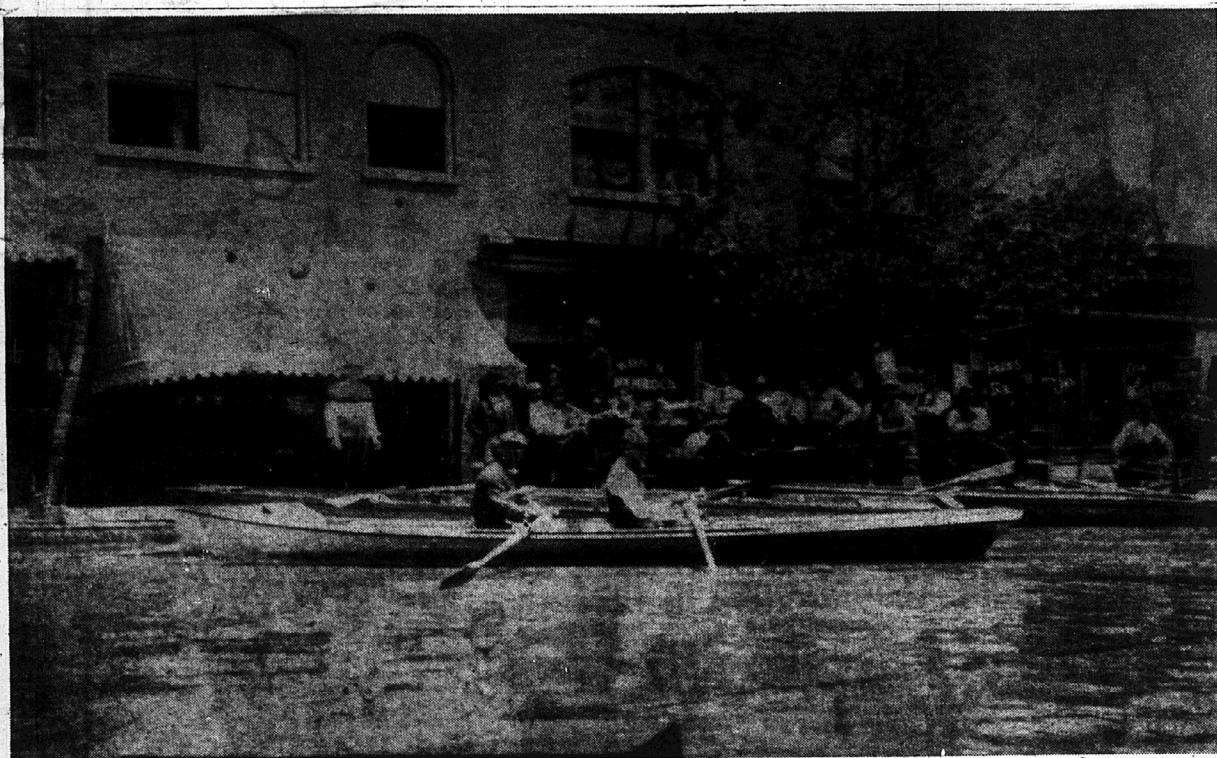
A village trustee for two years, he opened a lunch room, saloon, billiard parlor and pool parlor in 1899.

"John Bushell, Buffet" was a sign that inspired wayfarers to come in and make themselves "to home," a correspondent wrote at the time. A farmer and stock shipper until coming here in 1900 at the age of 37, he worked for two years at the car shops and then opened his business. He was described as "quite a hunter and fond of dogs."



**MADISON TORNADO.** A "twister" on Sept. 29, 1927, took the lives of three Madisonians as well as five other Quad-City residents. This Madison home was blown off its foundation, damaging the house next door.





**ROWING DOWN THIRD STREET** east of Madison avenue in 1903. Two saloons and a drug store are visible. Names on windows

are Rox's Shamrock and Park's Saloon. Deep water lasted only a few days but repairs and cleaning required months.



**STRANDED BY FLOOD WATERS** in 1903, these American Car & Foundry Co. employees spend leisure time on the plant roof as the water slowly recedes.



**ORIGINAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** and an adjacent home reflected in the 1903 flood waters. Built in the early 1890s, it burned down in 1924 and was replaced by the present First Presbyterian Church of Madison two years later.



**MADISON MAN OF THE YEAR** Mayor Stephen Maeras (right) receiving a lion trophy from Austin Lewis at a Madison Lions banquet, June 30, 1955.



**ONE BIG WADING POOL** was what Madison resembled at this stage of the flood in June 1903. This photograph was taken at Fourth street and Ewing avenue.



FROM ONE OLD TIMER ...

**Granite City Press-Record**  
1903

TO ANOTHER ...

**MADISON, ILLINOIS**  
1891

**CONGRATULATIONS**

ON YOUR DIAMOND JUBILEE

"YOU'VE NEVER LOOKED BETTER NOR ACTED MORE SPRY  
THAN YOU ARE NOW — AND WE FEEL THE SAME WAY"

The Granite City Press-Record has served ALL THE QUAD-CITIES for over 63 years.



# Laclede Steel Company Founded in Madison by T. R. Akin 55 Years Ago

"The year 1966 looks at present to be one that will break all production records at our Madison works," William M. Akin, Laclede Steel Co. board chairman, reports.

"During 1965 our joist facilities were greatly expanded and modernized. The buildings that formerly housed the Joist Department were converted to increase our Reinforcing-Bar Fabricating Department."

"At our Alton works two large electric furnaces were installed to give Laclede additional steel-making capacity to better serve our midwestern market. When these furnaces are coupled with a new, six-strand continuous casting machine next year, Laclede will again be able to increase sales."

## Rapid Technological Change

"Much has been said about the rate of change in process and technology in the steel industry. There is no question that the industry is modernizing at a pace unequalled in the past."

"The blast furnace for more than a century has been virtually the only economical means of converting iron ore into molten iron or pig iron."

"Now several new processes that require much smaller capital expenditures challenge the operating economies of the blast furnace and its allied equipment."

"For decades, the basic open hearth was practically the only method of converting iron and scrap into steel. In many plants, the open hearth furnaces are now being replaced by basic-oxygen vessels or by modern electric furnaces."

## Equipment Replaced

"Some heavy rolling mill equipment is being replaced for quality reasons by pressure casting equipment. For economic reasons, continuous casting machines are replacing soaking pits and blooming mills."

"Finishing mill equipment can now roll at more than twice the speed of earlier mills and deliver far superior products."

"In view of the above it is obvious to many of us that, if a steel company is to survive in the steel industry of tomorrow, it will have to be able to compete against the best of automated equipment."

"It is our intention at Laclede not only to survive in such a climate but to expand and thrive as well."

## Record Steel Consumption

"Figures from the American Iron and Steel Institute show steel consumption in the United States of over 900 pounds per capita."

"This is the highest figure in the history of our country and shows that the demand for steel per capita is increasing in a nation with an expanding population."

"It is easy to understand, therefore, why we at Laclede can see increased sales, employment and earnings through modernization and expansion in 1966 and the following years."

## Vitality, Growth

Survival despite intense competition was discussed by Chairman Akin last month in a talk on medium-size steel producers at the 74th general meeting of the American Iron and Steel Institute, held in New York.

Although they do not have many of the advantages of larger companies, medium-sized steel firms have numerous factors working in their favor, and they are showing real vitality and ability to grow, Akin said.

Akin asserted that medium-sized companies like Laclede are "the durable spinsters" of the industry who, in effect, have escaped matrimony (through combinations resulting in large

enterprises) or have avoided being "gracefully waltzed into last-thing oblivion."

## "Medium-Size" Advantages

Among the advantages held by the medium-size producer, Akin listed:

The facilities are usually all in one place. Therefore, decisions can be made quickly, with "everyone in on the act."

Top management of the organization has an intimate, detailed knowledge of what is going on at all times. If data is incorrect, "we find it out very quickly. When things do go wrong, immediate steps can be taken."

Not having its own raw materials facilities, the medium-size company can occasionally take advantage of fluctuating markets in purchased materials, although such fluctuations may also work to its disadvantage.

Medium-size firms may quickly stop making a product that is bringing in a poor return, or is losing money.

And the management of a medium-size company has to be conservative, for any errors would make financial embarrassment inevitable, he said.

"As for the future of medium-size mills, they have shown and will show ability to continue and to grow," Akin concluded.

## 750,000-Ton Capacity

Laclede Steel Co. has a capacity of 750,000 tons of ingot steel annually.

The firm's products are sold primarily in the Mississippi Valley trade area, but some move regularly to almost every state in the union, to Canada, Mexico and abroad. Annual sales are in excess of \$81 million.

The firm's basic steel-producing facilities are located at the Alton works. Situated on a plot of 340 acres are two electric furnaces, five hot rolling mills, a wire mill and a pipe mill. Warehousing and shipping facilities also are located at Alton.

Laclede owns and operates a rail-water terminal a short distance above the Alton Lock & Dam on the Mississippi River to handle outbound steel to the firm's plants farther south, and to receive inbound raw materials.

## Madison Works

At the Madison Works are Laclede's bar-rolling mill, fabricating facilities and steel joist plant, the latter one of the largest producers of open web, straight-chord joists in the country.

Serving as outlets for much of the company's steel in the South are fabricating plants located at Memphis, New Orleans and Tampa, Fla. Laclede is also the parent company for a wholly-owned subsidiary, Southern States Steel Corp., with plants at Beaumont and Dallas, Tex.

Laclede maintains 14 sales offices in principal cities throughout its primary marketing territory, the Mississippi Valley and Gulf South regions. General offices are located in the Arcade Building in downtown St. Louis.

From its multiple-plant locations, Laclede produces a wide variety of products, including semi-finished steel, bar mill products, construction products, welded wire fabric (mesh), steel joists, hot rolled flat steel products, tubular steel products and many kinds of wire.

## 55 Years Old

Laclede Steel Co. was founded June 3, 1911, by W. H. Akin's father, the late T. R. Akin, a native St. Louisan and first president of the company. He had begun his career in steel in the old Bessemer Steel Plant at Belleville.

Later, T. R. Akin became associated with several eastern steel producers and, with the



**CEDAR BLOCKS** once formed the surface of Madison avenue, shown here in the 1200 block. They were installed in 1909 on this street for the entire length of the village and on Seventh street from State street to Madison avenue.

knowledge gained there, returned to this region to establish Laclede's first plant at Madison.

St. Louis was then the second largest rail center in the United States, and Akin saw the possibility of taking used steel rails and rolling them into reinforcing bars and other steel products.

## Bar Rolling Begins

A short time later, in March 1912, the new mill at Madison, financed with local capital, began initial bar rolling operations.

Directors of the new mill decided in 1915 that an expansion of operations was necessary to supplement the production of the Madison works.

Only a short distance away at Alton was a relatively new steel mill, equipped with two small open hearth furnaces, a blooming mill and several rolling mills. The firm was, however, bankrupt. Accordingly, Laclede's directors approved purchase of the Alton works in 1915.

With purchase of the Alton mill, Laclede acquired a facility that could supply not only raw steel, but additional capacity for other products such as angles, shapes and strip. Among the first products from the Alton works were cotton ties and barrel hoops, along with some strip steel for bed stock.

## Steady Growth

Like many steel firms in America, Laclede witnessed a slow but steady growth in the early years, through world war I, the depression of the '30s and up to the beginning of world war II.

In the 25 years between world

war I and the end of world war II, Laclede approximately tripled its steelmaking capacity by adding to and enlarging the open hearth furnaces and by installing hot metal cupolas.

During the war years between 1941 and 1945, Laclede's furnaces and mills turned out hundreds of thousands of tons of steel for defense purposes.

Nearly 2500 sheets of shell steel for use in 90 and 105-millimeter projectiles were tapped out of the furnaces and rolled into bars.

## Among Largest in World

Continuing modernization of the company's facilities has brought major postwar expansion and improvement of the Madison plant as well as replacement of open hearth furnaces at Alton with two of the largest electric furnaces in the world.

The electric furnaces were completed in 1965. Next major change at Alton will provide continuous casting equipment.

Today, Laclede Steel products are found in buildings, highways, on the farms and in underground line pipe installations throughout the Middle West.

Customers of Laclede include farm equipment and tractor manufacturers, electric and gas utilities, contractors for commercial, residential and public buildings and hundreds of small manufacturing firms which utilize steel as the primary ingredient in their products.

Laclede products are used in auto manufacturing, outdoor and indoor furniture, airplane manufacturing, lawnmowers and hun-

dreds of other products from refrigeration coils for ice skating rinks to bobby pins and wire staples for match books.

## \$34 Million Payroll

As a "corporate citizen," Laclede participates in the economic, civic and cultural life of the many communities where its plants are located. Some Laclede employees serve on Red Cross boards, others aid United Fund organizations and the various UF agencies. Still others assist area youth while serving on YMCA boards and planning councils.

Payroll of Laclede Steel — wages, salaries and other employee benefits—last year exceeded \$34 million, the bulk of it going to Madison county residents.

The company's policy of diversification as to type of product has enabled it to ride out most of the economic downturns which have occurred over the last 55 years.

In only three years since March 1912, when the first steel was rolled, has Laclede failed to show a profit.

## 4500 Employees

Many of the 4500 employees of Laclede Steel Co. are second and third generations of the same family, and many of the employees have been associated with the company for 40 years or more.

Pleasant, effective relationships have always existed between the company and its employees.

Paul B. Akin, son of William M. Akin, is president of the company. Leonard Will is superintendent of the Madison plant.



**EARLY TRUCK AND EARLY HOTEL** are pictured. The building at the right is the rear of the Iron Age, a brick three-story hotel. Operated by Pleasant Ward, it dated back to the year of Madison's birth.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO MADISON ON ITS 75th BIRTHDAY

FROM

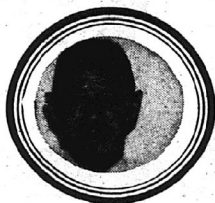
# Glik's

## DEPARTMENT STORE

3RD AND MADISON

MADISON IS ONLY 10 YEARS OLDER  
THAN GLIK'S, FOUNDED IN 1901, AND  
AND HAS SHARED IN THE CONTINUOUS  
GROWTH OF OUR FINE CITY.

PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN  
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTINUOUS  
GROWTH OF GLIK'S ARE ALSO  
LONG TIME MADISONITES



CARL SPOHR  
41 Years  
AT GLIK'S



JOE RICHARDSON  
40 Years  
AT GLIK'S



JOE GREGG  
33 Years  
AT GLIK'S



NETTIE SPOHR  
23 Years  
AT GLIK'S



FAY LITTLE  
23 Years  
AT GLIK'S



GUSSIE HESSMAN  
21 Years  
AT GLIK'S



DONNA TATALOVICH  
18 Years  
AT GLIK'S



MARY STANFILL  
12 Years  
AT GLIK'S



HELEN RICHARDSON  
11 Years  
AT GLIK'S



MARY TATALOVICH  
11 Years  
AT GLIK'S



JENNIE ROSS  
9 Years  
AT GLIK'S



DON'T GET CAUGHT NAPPING DURING OUR  
**MOONLIGHT MADNESS SALE**

Celebrating  
MADISON'S 75th BIRTHDAY AT

**Glik's**  
MADISON STORE ONLY

**TUESDAY NIGHT**

JUNE 28th

**6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

(STORE DOORS CLOSED 5:30 TO 6:30)

**10% OFF**

On Every Purchase at Glik's  
(2 1/2 HOURS ONLY)

Save 10% on every item in Glik's Madison store. Men's women's, children's apparel as well as shoes or household merchandise. . . . Charge, Will Call or cash purchases. For 2 1/2 hours only Tuesday night. Save 10% on every purchase.

**MADISON DIAMOND JUBILEE**

AT **Glik's**

MADISON AVE.

3rd ST.

**SIDEWALK**

**SALE**

Third Street

WILL BE BLOCKED OFF FOR SHOPPERS' CONVENIENCE

FRIDAY, JULY 1st, 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; SATURDAY TIL NOON

DON'T MISS  
THE  
SAVINGS

**SAVE 40% TO 60%**

DON'T MISS  
THE  
EXCITEMENT

WATCH FOR MADISON SIDEWALK SALE ADS IN THURSDAY'S PRESS - RECORD



Not Since 2c Mail  
Have You Seen  
Such Buys!

## LIVING ROOM

	REGULAR	SALE
Hide-A-Way Complete with Mattress and Matching Chair, Nylon Frieze, Foam Cushion..	\$199 <sup>95</sup>	\$159 <sup>95</sup>
Modern Style Thin-Arm Hide-A-Way, Charbrown .....	\$209 <sup>95</sup>	\$159 <sup>95</sup> w/trade-in
90" Thin - Army Blue - Green Tweed Contemporary Sofa ..	\$219 <sup>95</sup>	\$174 <sup>95</sup> w/trade-in
Quilted Floral 85" Traditional Sofa .....	\$219 <sup>95</sup>	\$159 <sup>95</sup> w/trade-in
Brown Nylon Frieze Sofa Only .....	\$99 <sup>95</sup>	\$74 <sup>95</sup>
2-Pc. Modern Sofa and Chair, Tangerine Tweed, Foam Zip- pered Cushions .....	\$269 <sup>95</sup>	\$199 <sup>95</sup> w/trade-in
Italian Provincial 95" Beige Mattelaie, Foam Rubber Cushions, Deep Tufted Back ..	\$259 <sup>95</sup>	\$199 <sup>95</sup> w/trade-in
7-Pc. Nylon Frieze Sofa Bed Outfit. Consists of Sofa Bed, Foam Cushion Chair, 3 Ta- bles, 2 Lamps .....	\$129 <sup>95</sup>	w/trade-in



STOP CHUGGIN!  
Get Going for These  
"Model T" Prices!

## CHAIRS

	REGULAR	SALE
Vinyl, High Back Swivel Rocker with Walnut Arms..	\$39 <sup>95</sup>	\$29 <sup>95</sup>
Matching Ottoman .....		\$10 <sup>00</sup>
Bright Floral Pattern Living Room Chair, Green and Blue.	\$54 <sup>95</sup>	\$44 <sup>95</sup>
Bright Floral Armless Chair, Choice of Color .....	\$59 <sup>95</sup>	\$42 <sup>95</sup> a pair
Russett Nylon Quilted Back T-Cushion Chair, Foam Filled	\$89 <sup>95</sup>	\$69 <sup>95</sup>
Danish Style Recliner and Ottoman .....	\$59 <sup>95</sup>	\$54 <sup>95</sup>
Mr. & Mrs. Chair with Otto- man—3 Pieces .....	\$159 <sup>95</sup>	\$119 <sup>95</sup>
Mr. & Mrs. Group—Chair, Swivel Rocker and Ottoman, Vinyl Covered .....	\$89 <sup>95</sup>	\$59 <sup>95</sup> set
Loose Cushion Danish Style Chairs .....	\$39 <sup>95</sup>	\$29 <sup>95</sup>



FISHING  
RODS

5 foot  
Glass 98c.

Baseball  
Gloves \$7<sup>00</sup>

10-PC.  
LURE SET  
\$1.48



Ironing  
Board

With Pad  
and Cover

\$4<sup>88</sup>

YOU'RE JUST MINUTES AWAY FROM

GOOD 'OLD-TIME'  
BARGAINS!

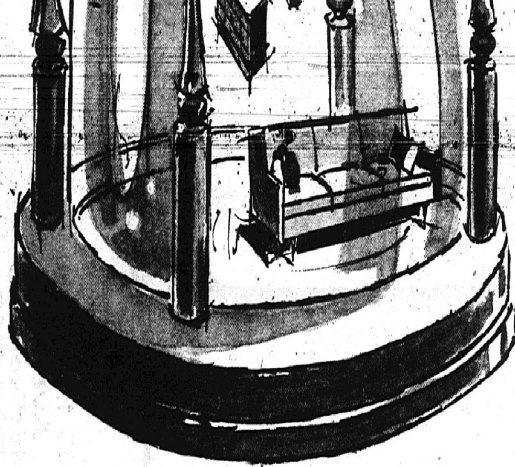
Here They are . . . Buys You Haven't Seen

in Years . . . 5 DAYS ONLY in our Biggest

STOREWIDE CLEARANCE Hurry!







IN YEARS . . . 5 DAYS ONLY IN OUR BIGGEST  
STOREWIDE CLEARANCE . . . Hurry!



Remember the  
5c SUNDAY?  
Well, it had Nothing on  
These Bedroom Buys!



If You Think 39c Sirloin  
Steak was a 'Buy' You'll  
Really Go for These!



TUESDAY  
ONLY  
All Aluminum  
Folding  
SUMMER  
FURNITURE  
1/3 Off



DAISY! DAISY! DASH IN FOR THESE PLEASE DO!  
THEY'RE MIGHTY OLD-TIME BUYS FOR YOU!

## APPLIANCES

	REGULAR	SALE
8,600 BTU Coolerator Air Conditioner .....	\$109 <sup>95</sup>	\$169 <sup>95</sup>
Frigidaire Portable Dishwasher .....	\$157 <sup>95</sup>	\$129 <sup>95</sup>
40" Frigidaire Electric Range with "Pull and Clean Oven" .....	\$269 <sup>00</sup>	\$239 <sup>00</sup>
14 Cu. Ft. Frigidaire Freezer .....	\$239 <sup>95</sup>	\$219 <sup>95</sup>
Columbia Masterwork Stereo, Record Player with AM/FM Radio, Walnut Cabinet .....	\$199 <sup>95</sup>	\$159 <sup>95</sup>
Frigidaire Automatic Washer, Deluxe Model .....	\$189 <sup>95</sup>	\$169 <sup>50</sup>
Hoover Washer and Spin Dryer, Floor Sample .....	\$159 <sup>95</sup>	\$119 <sup>95</sup>
Full Size 36" Orbon Gas Range .....	\$129 <sup>95</sup>	\$99 <sup>95</sup>
Columbia Masterwork Portable Stereo Phonograph with detachable speakers .....	\$129 <sup>95</sup>	\$99 <sup>95</sup>
Columbia Masterwork Auto- matic Record Player, Floor Sample .....	\$39 <sup>95</sup>	\$31 <sup>95</sup>
Columbia Masterwork 3-Speed Drop-Down Record Player, Floor Sample .....	\$29 <sup>95</sup>	\$24 <sup>95</sup>
Zenith FM/Am Walnut Radio, Floor Sample-1 Only .....	\$91 <sup>95</sup>	\$59 <sup>95</sup>

	REGULAR	SALE
Zenith Radio-Slightly Scratched-Floor Sample .....	\$24 <sup>95</sup>	\$19 <sup>95</sup>
Zenith Clock Radio with Mem- ory Timer, Floor Sample, 1 Only .....	\$39 <sup>95</sup>	\$29 <sup>95</sup>
Wehcor Compact Tape Record- er-Floor Sample, 1 Only .....	\$89 <sup>95</sup>	\$59 <sup>95</sup>



BARGAINS LIKE THESE  
WERE THE VOGUE  
WHEN 15c HAIRCUTS WERE!

## FLOOR COVERING

	REGULAR	SALE
24"x48" Striped Chenille Throw Rug, skid resistant, Choice of 4 colors .....	\$198	\$159
Room Size Chenille Rug, 9' x 12' .....	\$49 <sup>95</sup>	\$34 <sup>95</sup>
6' x 6' Round with Fringe .....	\$10 <sup>95</sup>	\$12 <sup>95</sup>
27" x 48" Foam-Backed Throw Rug .....	\$298	\$249
9' x 12'-100% Wool, looped pile, Mohawk Rug .....	\$59 <sup>95</sup>	\$39 <sup>95</sup>
Discontinued Rug Samples, values up to \$6.00 .....		\$1.00
27" x 36" Rug Samples, values up to \$3.00 .....		\$2.00
9' Wide and 12' Wide Vinyl Coated Linoleum .....	Sale 99c sq. yd.	
9' x 12' Foam-Backed Striped Rug-Gold or Blue .....	\$49 <sup>95</sup>	\$29 <sup>95</sup>
9' x 12' Island Green Nylon Rug .....	\$49 <sup>95</sup>	\$29 <sup>95</sup>

## BEDROOM

	REGULAR	SALE
3-Pc. Double Dresser, Chest and Bookcase Bed, Choice of Walnut or Pongee .....	\$129 <sup>95</sup>	\$99 <sup>95</sup>
Triple Dresser, Chest and Chairback Bed-High-pres- sure Plastic Top .....	\$219 <sup>95</sup>	\$178 <sup>00</sup>
3-Pc. Cordovan Mahogany Bedroom-Triple Dresser, Chest and Bookcase Bed .....	\$289 <sup>95</sup>	\$229 <sup>95</sup>
3-Pc. Walnut Bedroom- Double Dresser, Chest and Bookcase Bed .....	\$219 <sup>95</sup>	\$169 <sup>95</sup>

	REGULAR	SALE
Sealy Tuftless Mattress, Floor sample .....	\$59 <sup>95</sup>	\$39 <sup>95</sup>
Extra Firm Dr. Price Or- thopedic Mattress .....	\$59 <sup>95</sup>	\$49 <sup>95</sup>
Siesta Dream Quilt Mattress .....	\$49 <sup>95</sup>	\$39 <sup>95</sup>



VALUES AS BIG  
AS THE OLD  
NICKEL LOAF!

## TABLES

	REGULAR	SALE
Formica Top, Walnut Step Tables .....	\$24 <sup>95</sup>	\$14 <sup>95</sup>
Plastic Top Walnut Step Tables .....	\$21 <sup>95</sup>	\$12 <sup>95</sup>
Lined Oak Lamp Table, Cock- tail Table, Step Table, Corner Table, Values up to .....	\$19 <sup>95</sup>	\$5 each
Italian Provincial Table with Formica Marble Top .....	\$34 <sup>95</sup>	\$24 <sup>95</sup>
Marble Top Modern, Walnut Cocktail Table .....	\$44 <sup>95</sup>	\$34 <sup>95</sup>
Matching End Table, With Drawer .....	\$44 <sup>95</sup>	\$34 <sup>95</sup>

## KITCHEN

	REGULAR	SALE
5-Pc. Tan Marble Formica Table, with 4 Melon Chairs .....	\$119 <sup>00</sup>	\$79 <sup>95</sup>
7-Pc. Walnut, Formica Top Table with 6 Black Chairs, Chrome Legs, floor sample only .....	\$159 <sup>00</sup>	\$119 <sup>00</sup>
5-Pc. Daystrom Dinette-Oiled Walnut Finish, Formica Top Table, and 4 Green Vinyl Cov- ered Chairs .....	\$109 <sup>95</sup>	\$89 <sup>95</sup>
White Marble Plastic Top Ta- ble with 6 Orange Vinyl Cov- ered Chairs, White Legs .....	\$139 <sup>95</sup>	\$99 <sup>95</sup>
Drop Leaf Table and 2 Chairs .....	\$79 <sup>95</sup>	\$47 <sup>00</sup>
24" Round, Glass Top Table, 2 Gold Chairs .....	\$79 <sup>95</sup>	\$47 <sup>00</sup>
Plastic Top Base Cabinet- Floor Sample .....	\$29 <sup>95</sup>	\$19 <sup>95</sup>
36" Formica Top Base Cabinet .....	\$39 <sup>95</sup>	\$29 <sup>95</sup>
36" Sliding Door Utility Cabinet .....	\$39 <sup>95</sup>	\$29 <sup>95</sup>

## HOUSEWARES

	REGULAR	SALE
Electric Hostess Grill, Magic Wand .....	\$1988	\$988
Drop-Side Toaster, Less cord .....	\$675	\$495
Automatic Electric Revere 10" Stainless Steel Skillet .....	\$2795	\$1988
West Bend Square Copper Cake Saver .....	\$795	\$499
West Bend Round Aluminum Cake Saver .....	\$699	\$399
West Bend Thermo Plastic Hot or Cold Server .....	\$495	\$399
Kromex Ice Bucket .....	\$588	\$488

OPEN EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY AND FRIDAY NIGHT

# FRIEDMAN'S

FIFTH and MADISON

SINCE 1922

TR 7-6000

# REESE

## DRUG STORES

3rd & Madison — Madison

99c  
**STOPETTE**  
AEROSOL  
**DEODORANT**

LIMIT 1  
6-oz.  
family size **44c**

# MOONLIGHT SALE

NIGHT OWLS! SHOP 'TIL MIDNIGHT FOR THESE JUNE MOON BUYS

**MADISON  
DIAMOND  
JUBILEE  
WEEK**

\$12.95  
**EMTONE TR-45  
Tape Recorder**  
Complete  
with  
Case **\$8.99**

LIMIT 1

PRICES GOOD FROM 7:00 to 10:00 P.M. TUESDAY, JUNE 28

69c 1/2 GAL. GULF  
**CHARCOAL  
STARTER**

LIMIT 1  
**39c**

**SIDEWALK  
SALE  
FRIDAY  
and  
SATURDAY  
JULY 1st & 2nd**

29c  
**CITRATE OF  
MAGNESIA**  
PINT  
BOTTLE  
LIMIT 1 **19c**

**FREE PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY — REESE**

## ONE TIME ONLY! JUBILEE SPECIALS

ALL NEW MERCHANDISE  
**MOTOROLA**

		Regular	SALE
2	23BT101 23" TV with Base	\$229.95	\$189.95
1	23BT170 23" TV Walnut Console	\$249.95	\$189.95
1	Portable Hi-Fi Automatic	\$49.95	\$37.95
1	Portable Stereo Automatic	\$79.95	\$64.95
1	Symphonic Stereo Automatic	\$59.95	\$39.95

### CURTIS MATHES

2	19" Portable TV	\$129.95	\$104.95
1	Walnut Comb'n AM/FM Stereo	\$299.95	\$199.95
1	Mediterranean Provincial AM/FM Stereo	\$399.95	\$259.95
1	Early American AM/FM Stereo	\$399.95	\$259.95

ALL STEREO HAVE 6 SPEAKERS

### GE

2	12-FT. Automatic Refrig.	\$249.95	\$184.95
1	14-FT. Automatic Refrig.	\$289.95	\$210.00
1	Elec. Range Amer. Copertone 2 Oven	\$519.95	\$399.95

All Prices Include Factory Guarantee and Service.

Big Store Prices, Small Store, Personalized Service

**STERLING** TV AND  
APPLIANCE CO.  
420 Madison Avenue GL 2-8166

## Congratulations to Madison On Its 75th Birthday

FROM ALL OF US AT

# SAVE -MOR

## SUPER-MARKET

1508 THIRD STREET  
MADISON

OPEN EVERY FRIDAY  
NIGHT 'TIL 7:30 P.M.

WE REDEEM FOOD STAMPS

## MADISON 3-HR. CLEANER SPECIAL

Tuesday thru Thursday — June 28-29-30  
**ANY 3 GARMENTS LISTED  
DRY CLEANED FOR ONLY**

MEN'S SUITS  
LADIES' SUITS  
LADIES' PLAIN DRESSES

**\$2.95**

FREE MOTHPROOFING, MILDEW PROOFING, DEODORIZED.  
YEAR ROUND BOX STORAGE AVAILABLE.

NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR 3-HOUR SERVICE  
504 MADISON AVE. TR 7-8571

## Watch For Unheard of BARGAINS

In Tuesday's Press-Record  
During Our

**Sidewalk Sale**  
AT

**AMERICAN  
SALES  
DOLLAR  
STORE**

314 STATE ST.,  
MADISON, ILL.



# GOOD 'OLD-TIME' BARGAINS!

Celebrating  
MADISON'S  
DIAMOND  
JUBILEE

	Reg.	Sale Price
<b>GOLD PILLOW BACK RECLINER</b> Solid foam reversible seat cushion .....	\$149 <sup>00</sup>	\$115 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(BROYHILL) BROWN OCCASIONAL CHAIR</b> Foam rubber seat cushions Scotchguard material .....	\$96 <sup>00</sup>	\$69 <sup>95</sup>
<b>(INTERNATIONAL) 3 PC. MR. &amp; MRS. CHAIR</b> with ottoman: Red, green and brown mix tweed, Foam rubber seat cushions .....	\$277 <sup>00</sup>	\$199 <sup>95</sup>
<b>(SEALY) BROWN TWEED 80" SOFA</b> Foam rubber seat cushions .....	\$219 <sup>95</sup>	\$188 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(MAXWELL ROYAL) GOLD FLORAL HIGH BACK CHAIR</b> Foam rubber seat cushions .....	\$159 <sup>95</sup>	\$88 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(WALDRON) GOLD 92" SOFA</b> Quilted printed pattern. Foam rubber seat cushions .....	\$319 <sup>95</sup>	\$256 <sup>00</sup>
<b>SWAN NECK ARM HIGH BACK ROCKER</b> Tapestry pattern with beige background. Foam padded seat and back .....	\$79 <sup>95</sup>	\$64 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(INTERNATIONAL) RED PRINT SWIVEL ROCKER</b> Foam rubber seat cushion .....	\$85 <sup>00</sup>	\$68 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(Maxwell Royal) Patchwork OCCASIONAL CHAIR</b> Solid maple arms and wood trim .....	\$129 <sup>95</sup>	\$99 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(SCHWEIGER) RUSSET 93" SOFA</b> Solid foam seat cushions .....	\$249 <sup>95</sup>	\$199 <sup>95</sup>
<b>(WALDRON) Brown &amp; Gold QUILTED PRINT SOFA</b> Dacron wrapped foam seat cushions .....	\$239 <sup>95</sup>	\$179 <sup>95</sup>
<b>(NATIONAL) GOLD ROCKING RECLINER</b> Foam rubber seat. Reclines to full bed position .....	\$159 <sup>95</sup>	\$124 <sup>95</sup>
<b>(MURPHY MILLER) Gold High Back Swivel ROCKER</b> With matching ottoman. Solid maple arms .....	\$79 <sup>95</sup>	\$66 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(MAXWELL ROYAL) Gold Occasional pull up CHAIR</b> Solid maple arms .....	\$96 <sup>00</sup>	\$69 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(BROYHILL) Red and Blue Print High Back LOUNGE CHAIR</b> Latex seat cushion. Arm covers included .....	\$115 <sup>00</sup>	\$93 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(MURPHY MILLER) Brown and Beige PRINT CHAIR</b> With solid maple arms .....	\$49 <sup>95</sup>	\$39 <sup>95</sup>
<b>BROWN &amp; GOLD PRINT STUDIO COUCH</b> Converts to single bed .....	\$54 <sup>95</sup>	\$44 <sup>00</sup>
<b>(LEWITTES) Red Plaid High Back RUNNER ROCKER</b> Solid maple wood trim .....	\$79 <sup>95</sup>	\$64 <sup>50</sup>
<b>(TWIN RIVERS) Green Tweed PLATFORM ROCKER</b> With solid maple arms .....	\$69 <sup>95</sup>	\$55 <sup>00</sup>
<b>GOLD TWEED SWIVEL ROCKER</b> With wood trim finished in salem maple .....	\$39 <sup>95</sup>	\$29 <sup>95</sup>
<b>TOAST PRINT SWIVEL BOUDIOR CHAIR</b> Foam padded seat and back .....	\$29 <sup>95</sup>	\$19 <sup>95</sup>
<b>Beige and Brown Print HIGH BACK WING CHAIR</b> Maple trim. Also available in gold tweed .....	\$59 <sup>95</sup>	\$48 <sup>00</sup>
<b>Gold Tweed or Brown and Beige Print OCCASIONAL WING CHAIR</b> .....	\$49 <sup>95</sup>	\$38 <sup>00</sup>

Open Every  
Mon., Tues.  
and Friday  
until 8:30 p.m.

FRIEDMAN'S

**EARLY AMERICAN**

SHOP

405 Madison  
Avenue  
Madison, Ill.  
TR 7-6002

# Frontier Atmosphere Included Horse Riders, Frame Buildings, Gunplay

Violence — and violent death — accompanied the birth and infancy of this community. Scores committed suicide, usually with carbolic acid, and shootings and accidental deaths were common in the early days.

Not an actual frontier area — although the dirt streets, frame buildings and horses appear to provide a frontier atmosphere in old-time photographs — the local urban and rural settlement nevertheless saw more violence when small than with the present population of more than 70,000.

Madison share of the Quad-City population is 6881.

Runaway horses presented a hazard and there were horse-whippings, stabbings, street car fatalities, plant injuries, falls involving steeplejacks, electrocutions, drownings, riots, payroll holdups, highway robberies, falls from viaducts and safe lootings.

Many baby deaths were attributed to summer complaint — or cholera infantum, and older persons died of lockjaw and blood poisoning. Reports of missing persons were common.

Carrying of guns was standard practice, and they were so handy that arguments often turned into murders.

## Madison Pool Room Raid

One of the earliest recorded cases of strife here took place in February 1904 when a posse of citizens raided Madison pool rooms, where gambling law violations were alleged to be taking place.

Shotguns, revolvers and Winchester repeaters were carried by the raiders and the crowd at the pool rooms, and over 100 shots were fired. Six men were wounded, and many arrests were made.

Four men lost their lives in two incidents on the same weekend in December 1904. A fight between two factions of workers led to three being killed on Edwardsville road — one shot and two stabbed to death. A man was shot to death in a tavern dispute a short time later.

A boiler explosion on a dredge boat brought death to two and injury to three people Oct. 25, 1905.

Many were wounded, two critically, when 100 "American" and 150 "Macedonian" workmen of the American Steel Foundries rioted Sept. 15, 1906. It was regarded as an outgrowth of a feud between molders and laborers.

A swimming area in existence since the 1903 flood attracted many people and accounted for an average of four deaths each summer for a number of years.

Known as "dead man's hole," it was located near the Cloverleaf Addition south of Madison.

Four gangsters riding in an auto killed a McKinley Bridge collector and a bridge watchman June 6, 1924. A pistol was found, but the car and men were not located.

Bodies of three men slain in East St. Louis were dumped in Madison county Feb. 2, 1931, being found in a ditch a half-mile east of Moellenbrock's Horseshoe Lake resort. Two of the victims were believed to be kidnapers.

## Victim Dumped in Madison

Gang warfare continued and on April 15, 1932, a second triple murder was discovered. Two bullet-riddled bodies were discovered slumped in a roadster a half-mile south of Long Lake on Pontoon road, and the third was found in a vacant lot at 12th street and Alton avenue, Madison.

A local tabulation for 1914 revealed 65 violent deaths, compared to 74 in Alton.

The Madison county tally that year included 26 hit by trains, 24 drowned, four struck by interurban cars, 21 suicides, nine murders, nine hit by autos, two accidental shootings, six electrocuted, four killed by runaway horses,



**KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS HALL** in the early years of Madison was occupied on the first floor by the Peerless tobacco, candy, cigar and pipe store. A customer is

shown with his buggy on the unpaved street while a clerk waits in the doorway and the gentleman at right makes himself comfortable while surveying the scene.

four suffocated or strangled and five killed in mines.

## Chief, Captain Feared

Two of those accepting responsibility for the protection of life and property were Patrick McCambridge, Madison police chief, and his night captain, William "Big Bill" Street.

Among the most colorful individuals to inhabit this area during the first years of the current century, they were warmly liked by some and feared by others.

City treasurer of Madison for eight years, Samuel Houston was shot four times by McCambridge in October 1905 at a Sixth and State streets saloon; he died three weeks later. Houston had been attempting to act as peace-maker in a dispute between his brother and the chief.

Not prosecuted, McCambridge a month later barred meetings of car shop workers seeking to organize a labor union, but his resistance halted at least temporarily the following month and meetings took place.

In 1919, the chief was sentenced to four months in jail for shooting a man at a gathering of car shop workers at Klein's hall in East Madison. He remained chief for 42 years, from 1891 until his death in 1933.

Street, known as the "biggest policeman in the world," was accused but not convicted of shooting to death his wife and a St. Louis patrolman in a North St. Louis building. Later, he was shot twice by men who escaped in an auto in 1920.

In addition to his duties as night Madison police captain, Street served for a while as city court bailiff in Granite City.

## GC, Venice 75th Anniversaries In 1971, 1972

Madison's 75th anniversary this year is only the first of several due to be celebrated in the Quad-Cities within the next few years.

Granite City will mark its 75th anniversary as a city in 1971.

Venice will have cause to celebrate in either 1972 or 1973, or both. In 1972 it will have been 75 years since incorporation of Venice as a city. In 1973, it will have been a century since creation of the village of Venice.

Illinois will be 150 years old in 1968.

The city of Madison will be 25 years old next year.

## Many Banks, Many Bandits, Many Holdups in Early Years

Banks were a favorite target of robbers in the early days of Madison.

Many made good on their theft attempts, but others were either shot down or captured later.

In the latter category were two of the three bandits who obtained \$16,000 from the Tri-City State Bank in Madison in May 1918. Cash recovered totaled \$13,100. The trio had locked Cashier Robert Studebaker and four others in the bank vault.

The same bank was robbed of \$12,000 by four armed men in July 1922.

### Three In Same Month

The Tri-City State Bank lost \$3000 Aug. 11, 1924, to three men who fled under a volley of shots.

A trio seven days later robbed the Union Trust Co. bank, 1215 Madison avenue, of \$3700. Four days after this, the Venice State Bank was robbed of \$5800 by four men.

To help combat the crime wave, five motorcycle deputies began patrolling Madison county roads in November 1924, armed

with riot guns and tear gas bombs. The county had lost \$100,000 to robbers in a three-month period.

Three armed men took \$15,000 from the First National Bank, Fourth street and Madison avenue, Sept. 12, 1930. At the same place, a trio obtained \$3000 July 18, 1931.

### Gunplay During Robberies

A man and woman were killed and three persons were seriously wounded in a holdup June 4, 1916, at a saloon and boarding house at 722 State street.

A Venice policeman, George Fries, was shot and killed when he happened to enter the New-Way service station, Broadway and Madison avenue, during a 1926 robbery.

"Strip bandits" were active in 1938. A gang of seven men and a woman forced robbery victims to disrobe so they could not follow immediately, affording the robbers time to escape.

Armed holdups in recent years have occurred principally at liquor, grocery and drug stores.

## Truck-Train Worst Crash in Madison

While providing invaluable transportation service in the early days of this community, fast-moving electric trains, unfortunately, were factors in countless fatalities.

On many occasions, pedestrians lost their lives while attempting to cross tracks in front of approaching street cars. Collisions of trolleys also were numerous.

A coach loaded with industrial workers jumped the Terminal Railroad Association tracks between Madison and Granite City July 16, 1903, causing two deaths.

Three young people—two Madison men and a Venice girl—were killed March 11, 1928, when their auto was hit by an Illinois Traction car at Fifth street and Madison avenue, Madison. The auto caught fire.

### 1945 Crash Recalled

At a then-unprotected crossing at Edwardsville road and McCambridge avenue Oct. 25, 1945, a northbound Alton street car collided with a westbound transport truck loaded with auto wheels.

Tearing the trailer from the

truck cab, the train carried it along the track, although the first of the two cars of the train derailed.

The truck's fuel tank exploded, igniting both the trailer and the front of the street car. Four passengers in the first car of the train died in the crash.

Five Quad-Cityans died as a result of a two-auto mishap on Highway 67 (now Route 203) south of Madison, near Eagle Park, Nov. 23, 1946. The two vehicles had sideswiped, and one of them burned.

## Niemeier Store Was Located on Seventh St.

A successful grocery store was operated at Seventh street and Edwardsville road six decades ago by Charles Niemeier and his wife. His father had operated a grocery in Evansville, Ind., for 38 years. Niemeier came to Madison in 1901 and worked at the A. Eiler Grocery Co. until going into business for himself March 1, 1906.

## Friend of McKinley Started Paint Store

The Madison Paint Co. was established by E. J. Garman in 1899 and was incorporated under the Madison Paint name in September 1906 with the following stockholders:

Charles R. Kiser, president; N. M. Kiser, vice-president; C. A. Witt, secretary; and Garman, treasurer and general manager. The wholesale-retail company handled paints, oils, varnishes, brushes and wall paper.

Garman was a personal friend of President McKinley and "associated with him a great deal when he was a young man." Garman was born in Canton, O., in 1872.

## Many People Provided Photos for This Issue

The Press-Record voices its thanks to the many persons who aided in assembling the varied assortment of oldtime Madison photographs published in today's 75th anniversary edition.

They included Mrs. John L. Carter, Bruce Champion, Mrs. Evelyn Dooling, Mayor Stephen Maeras, Joseph Richardson, Police Chief Emmett Pazio, Mrs. Lucille Podnar, Earl Galloway, Mrs. Thelma Gonterman, Harold Ratliff, Mrs. Vera Scott, Mrs. L. C. Harlan, Mike Krieschok, Mrs. John Malone and John Oldal.

## Bakers and Brothers

Christ and William Brenner, brothers, operated the Madison Home Bakery, featuring fancy cakes and wedding cakes made to order. Formerly in the same line in St. Louis, they purchased the bakery of Charles Obert in Madison and began operating two wagons. One learned the baking trade in Europe and the other in the U. S.

## Greve Hardware Store

Working at the Reimann hardware store, Fifth and Madison, until 1907, Harry K. Greve purchased it from his employer at that time and shouldered full responsibilities for a joint hardware and repair business. A former Venice resident, he employed three clerks. Earlier, he had acquired experience in farming, timekeeping and stamping mill work.





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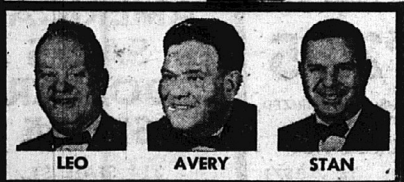
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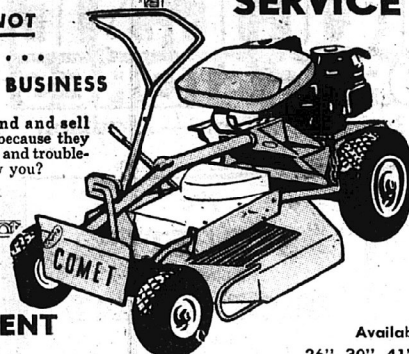
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## Colorful Eras During The 'Good Old Days'

Gambling and politics were intermingled during most of the early years of Madison.

Helping make the "gay '90s" gay was a race track south of town. During its heyday, special trains were run to it from St. Louis to accommodate customers. "Good Government" clubs finally had it closed.

A poolroom in the Ferguson area east of Madison masked a gambling club.

Most epochal law enforcement event to take place in the Quad-Cities was the raid May 12, 1950, by 50 Illinois state troopers on the Hyde Park Club in Venice and 200 Club in Madison.

It set a precedent for state action and touched off a chain of events which has led to an era of progress and respect for the law in the Quad-Cities and throughout Madison county.

The two gambling casinos, which sometimes followed an up-and-down pattern in their operations, were not running but their betting handbooks were doing a big business when the surprise afternoon raid took place.

The state police were acting under the orders of Gov. Adlai Stevenson, a Democrat, in halting flagrant law violations in two Democratic strongholds.

Three operators and 48 employees were arrested, and large quantities of cash, gambling equipment and records were seized. The books showed that the daily betting business had been running at about \$40,000-\$30,000 at Hyde Park and \$10,000 at the 200 Club.

Though the establishments and their predecessors had sought to retain an air of gentility and fair play, as well as benevolence toward local residents, there was increasing infiltration by mobsters, and beatings and shootings occurred.

The death of a 43-year-old Venice war worker near the 205 gambling club on Madison avenue was investigated in April 1945, but nothing could be proven.

State's attorneys instituted a policy of issuing informations, resulting in gambling fines in the courts. Those named usually were rotated, and stiffer penalties for second violations thus did not materialize.

Both the 200 Club and Hyde Park were cited on various occasions in the 1940s, and Granite City handbooks—most of them located at cigar stores—were added to the list of informations filed.

### Bombings, Shootings

The home of a state's attorney was bombed in December 1947

and in June 1949 shotgun pellets were fired at the 200 club and the home of another state's attorney, in Madison.

A policy of toleration of slot machines in private clubs was announced by the sheriff and state's attorney in September 1949, when there were 86 in the Quad-Cities. On some previous occasions, the "one-armed bandits" were even more prevalent than this in some sections of the community.

When Mrs. Irene Kite obtained a "Carrie Nation" axe and began wielding it on slot machines in 1938, a county official filed charges of malicious destruction of property, saying he would seek a jail term for her if the damage was under \$15 or prison if it exceeded \$15. She was jailed at Edwardsville and staged a sit-down strike in her cell.

In earlier years, state's attorneys and candidates for the office frequently conducted gambling raids.

After the raid of 1950 and Senate crime hearings in 1951, gambling activity shifted to other locations. State police returned here to raid the Villa Venice casino, No. 2 State street, in February 1955 and the Club Prevue on Collinsville road later the same year.

Villa Venice has since been torn down. The Prevue, after resuming operation sporadically, was converted into a store.

The 200 Club became a truck terminal office and, on Jan. 16, 1959, the city of Venice purchased the Hyde Park buildings for use by the City-owned McKinley Bridge.

### Colorful Crime Fighters

The developments appear to have permanently ended an era in which law violations were tolerated by the public and in which some of the lawbreakers were colorful figures, often widely known and liked.

One of the early operators of the former Mounds Club on Collinsville road—later to be called the Prevue, Corona and other names—had the nickname of "Bow-wow."

About the same time there were the Shelton and Birger gangs and the notorious Cuckoo gang of the 1920s. One group was known as "Feather Edge" and another as the "ice box" gangsters.

The local area also has seen "flapper bandits," the "kissing bandit" of 1928 and the "trap bandits."

On a slightly different level in local crime annals were the "crawling burglar," "barefoot burglar" and "TV burglar."

## Fires at Stores, Brewery, Plants, Elevator

History of major fires in the Madison area begins with a blaze on Jan. 25, 1908, that destroyed David Waschauer's department store at Third street and Madison avenue, Madison.

The fire ruined a barber shop and two homes on Third street and crossed the street to damage the Famous Clothing Co., Madison Tailor Shop and Isaac Bartley's restaurant.

The nearby First National Bank and post office were saved, but the damage estimate reached \$100,000.

### Barber Asphalt Fire

Roofing paper and felt were destroyed in a \$75,000 fire at the Barber Asphalt plant Oct. 15, 1908.

Four homes on "Newlywed Row," Fifth street and McCambridge avenue, burned March 4, 1910.

Flames ended the history of the old Helm brewery in Madison in January 1917.

### Helmbacher Mill Burns

A half-million-dollar conflagration destroyed the Helmbacher Forge and Rolling Mill Co., Madison, Dec. 15, 1920, and, due to a strong wind, threatened houses and businesses on State street.

A \$65,000 blaze destroyed the Bayer and Son garage and filling station, Market street and Madison avenue, Madison, July 11, 1924.

Attributed to a bomb thrown from an auto, the fire destroyed 10 automobiles.

### Asphalt Tank Ignites

Overheating ignited a tank containing a million gallons of heavy asphalt at Barber Asphalt Jan. 4, 1928, but a new chemical fire-prevention system smothered the blaze and limited the loss to \$25,000.

A large quantity of wheat was destroyed in a \$100,000 grain elevator fire in Madison Feb. 19, 1931.

Schermer Brothers' grocery at 12th street and Madison avenue, Madison, suffered \$25,000 fire damage to the building and stock May 20, 1939.

An \$18,000 fire destroyed the Zolner grocery and meat market, 1023 Greenwood street, Madison, Nov. 5, 1945, damaged two adjoining buildings and threatened for a time to spread to the Madison Packing Co.

### Furniture Mart Destroyed

A \$100,000 fire Jan. 28, 1946, destroyed the Fredman Exchange Furniture Mart, 12th street and Madison avenue, Madison.

Shortly after the turn of the century he started a business of furnishing carriages for all occasions, and soon was operating a first-class livery, carriage horse and boarding stable. But for many years his heart remained with the "iron horse," and he retained his membership in the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

## J. J. Lahey Trustee of Village 36 Years

Jerry J. Lahey, who opened the first Madison funeral home in 1906, was a village trustee from 1905 to 1941. His son, Francis, later operated the funeral home until his death this year.

The elder Lahey's sons-in-law established the Pieper funeral home in Granite City, Straube funeral home in Edwardsville and Willis mortuary in Auburn, Ill.

J. J. Lahey was born in 1863 at Palmer, Mass. He resided there nine years until his family moved to Decatur, where he attended parochial schools, later coming to East St. Louis as an engineer for the Wabash Railroad. In 1892 he left the Wabash to join the Cloverleaf.

routing 17 residents of the upper floor in their night clothes.

A \$300,000 fire damaged the Kelly Tar and Chemical plant Dec. 9, 1947. Explosions rocked homes in Tri-City Park and Madison, and wind spread the blaze.

Four children—girls one, two and three years old and a boy three weeks old—burned to death in their home in the 700 block of Jefferson street, Madison, April 27, 1950. Their mother was at a neighbor's home.

Schermer Brothers' Supermarket, 12th street and Madison avenue, sustained more than \$50,000 damage in a blaze March 8, 1956.

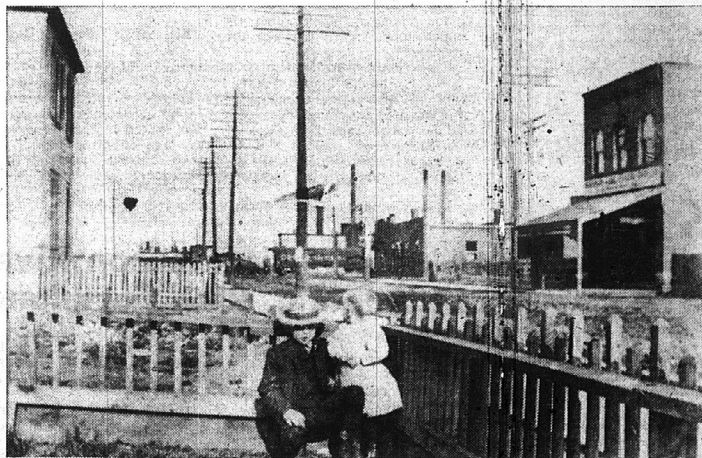
With damage estimated at \$50,000, fire destroyed the Madison-Venice Building and Supply Co. in the 1400 block of Second street March 10, 1959.

## Madison Tailor Shop

The Madison Tailoring Co., located in the Hilker block, was opened in 1905 by D. Friedman, a native of Hungary who made a specialty of tailor-made clothes as well as repairing, dyeing, cleaning and pressing.



EVERYTHING BUT THE CRACKERBARREL is in evidence in this view of a typical Madison grocery store shortly after the turn of the century.



MADISON REAL ESTATE OFFICE is shown at the far right and above it an early school classroom. This view from Second and G streets in 1902 also shows the office and smokestacks of the Helmbacher rolling mill and a passenger train. Youngsters are Bruce Champion (left), now in Sparta, Ill., and his brother, Randall Champion, a resident of Charlottesville, Va.

## Coudys 1st Businessmen

The firm of Coudy Brothers, dealers in lumber, builders' hardware, and paints and consisting of George E. and William J. Coudy, was the first enterprise established in Madison. It was started in 1888, two years before the Merchants Bridge was opened for traffic.

When they came to Madison, it was a vast corn field and there were only two houses. The third home built was erected by W. J. Coudy on State street opposite the Terminal Railway Depot.

Initially they engaged in the real estate and construction business, putting up a large number of houses which they sold on a monthly-payment basis to workmen.

In 1898 they started their lumber business on a 225-foot-frontage tract in Second street between State street and Madison avenue. It was twice destroyed by fire within the first decade, but they rebuilt each time.

### Horse Delivery Teams

By 1908, they had a \$40,000-a-year business employing seven people and were running three teams of horses to deliver orders.

Both brothers were active in the Madison Good Government League, which was credited in an early account with "ridding the community of the degrading influences of the gambling and racetrack men." This was accomplished by forming an armed posse, an action prompted by lack of cooperation from state and county authorities.

George E. Coudy was born in 1866 in St. Louis, where his father, George B. Coudy, was in the contracting business. President of the lumber firm, G. E. Coudy as a young man had lost a leg and an arm in a railroad accident.

W. J. Coudy was born during the civil war, in 1863, in Butler county, Ill. He and his brother moved to Madison from St. Louis with their widowed mother.



## No Bridge Needed When River Froze

Bridges have figured prominently in Madison history. But at one time it was not so convenient to cross the river—except in especially cold weather.

The nearly Arctic winters which used to freeze the Mississippi solid are nearly forgotten in the present age, but old timers still recall when the frozen river used to be competition for Eads Bridge, first constructed in this region.

The river froze to such a depth in 1903 that drayage wagons traveled back and forth between the Quad-Cities and St. Louis on the ice. During a long freeze, it is said, bars were set up at midpoint of the river and travelers could "warm up" before continuing across the ice.

Many commuters preferred the ice to street cars by way of East St. Louis. The late John L. Fichte told of one experience of falling through the ice while walking to St. Louis.

When the ice was solidly frozen, ice plants frequently sawed huge chunks from the Mississippi for storage and sale during hot summer months.

An 1873 report noted that this area was connected with St. Louis by two steam ferryboats which made two trips each hour.

## Madison Site of Long-Distance Phone Center

In 1878, the first telephone exchange was started in this region with 16 customers.

From this point, the metropolitan area grew into a communications complex in which a telephone customer could call over 2,000,000 people in his vicinity and nearly 200,000,000 in the U. S. with the turn of a dial.

About the turn of the century, a building which is now the Methodist Church in Madison was erected to house the first Bell exchange in the Quad-City area.

This building was the center for all long-distance calling in the midwest. However, in 1903 the building was flooded-out, and all of the long distance equipment was moved to East St. Louis.

In 1906 the Kinloch Telephone Company erected a central office building at 1925 "E" street. The Bell Office, which was established in 1912, was located at 1248a Niedringhaus avenue, later the Kahle hardware store. The two companies combined had about 200 customers.

About 1915 the Kinloch building burned and a new building was erected in the 1900 block of Edison avenue. In 1917 the name of the Bell company was officially changed to the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company.

In 1924 the Kinloch company consolidated with Southwestern Bell, at which time the Bell office was abandoned and all the existing lines were cut over to the Kinloch building. There were about 1500 customers at that time.

In 1949 the present telephone building was built at 21st street and Edison avenue.

Prior to April 1950, all calls in the Quad-City area were placed through an operator. However, after that date, customers could begin dialing their own calls.

In October 1961, customers in the Quad-City area began dialing long distance calls directly.

## Johns Labor Delegate

William L. Johns, foreman of the composing room of the Madison Tribune in 1908, was the delegate of the Tri-City Trades Council to the National Federation of Labor convention held at Norfolk, Va. He formerly owned and published the Venice Beacon.



**HANDSOME FIRE HORSES** stand ready to draw the Madison fire wagon Oct. 14, 1909, in connection with

festivities at a carnival held in Granite City. This unit replaced a hand-drawn fire truck acquired in 1894.



**NEATLY UNIFORMED FIREMEN** of the volunteer department posed in 1908. Adults seated in the front row include Firemen Quigley, fifth from left; Chief Pearl Smith, seventh; Ike Medley, ninth; and Fireman Conroy, tenth. The middle row includes, from the left,

Womack, second; Julius DeLong, third; Spence Danjels, fifth and Roger Studebaker, sixth. In the back row, Earl Hinson is third from left, followed in order by Jack Harris, Eddie Doolin, Joe Grenzer, Grover Hauskins and Elmo Hinson.



**HELMBACHER FORGE & ROLLING MILL** in 1910. One of the first industries in Madison, it was destroyed by fire on a windy day, Dec. 15, 1920, causing smaller

blazes to break out all over Madison. The plant employed 200 persons.



**MADISON CHURCH BROTHERHOOD** at the Nativity of Virgin Mary Eastern Orthodox Catholic Church, Fifth street and Ewing avenue, in the first decade of

this century. The frame church was replaced by a brick structure in 1965.



**EARLY COAL AND FEED FIRM** was operated by Christ L. Louis and Thomas Layloff, later to become competitors. Drivers (left to right) in this 1927 photograph are Henry Rozycke, now living at 1913 Rhodes street, Frank Rozycke, now residing at 924 Washing-

ton avenue, the late James Mitano and Bill Phillips, now living at 702 Iowa street. In the doorway, Layloff is second from left and Louis is third. Madison Coal & Feed moved from this location at Sixth and State in 1928 to the 1300 block of State street.

## County Housing Office at Madison

Since its creation in October 1939, the Madison County Housing Authority has worked in cooperation with the federal government and local communities to erect low-rent housing projects in areas of pressing need.

Starting with the 80-unit Ferdinand A. Garesche Homes in Madison in 1941, the authority now operates 852 apartments in permanent housing facilities.

Central offices are maintained at Washington avenue and Market street in Madison, with individual offices at each housing site.

Developments are valued today at about \$10 million. Dwelling units bring in annual rent of about a half-million dollars, most of which is used for upkeep of buildings and wages of 26 maintenance and management employees.

Although the housing authority is exempt from local and state taxes, it has made payments totaling several hundred thousand dollars in lieu of local property taxes in recent years.

The Madison County Housing Authority operates by borrowing federal money to initiate a project. This is repaid through local sale of revenue bonds, which are then paid off with rental income.

### 351 Quad-City Units

In addition to the Garesche Homes, the authority operates the 84-apartment Grenzer Homes in Madison.

Venice projects are the Lee Wright Homes, 100 units; Venice Homes, 50; and Viola Jones Homes, 37.

In Alton, the MCHA operates the Isaac B. Curran Homes, 150 units; and John J. Sullivan Homes, 100.

Collinsville projects are the Northgate Homes, 100; and Eastgate Home, 77 apartments for the elderly only.

In East Alton, the MCHA has the 74-unit Olin Home for the elderly.

During world war II, the authority operated 50-unit homes in Madison and Venice, 25 units in Collinsville and 30 units in Alton as emergency housing for returning veterans. It rented 50 units of trailer housing for Edwardsville radiator factory employees.

### Five Commissioners

Commissioners are Herman von Meyer of the Illinois State

Bank at Alton, chairman; Joseph Bergrath, Venice township assessor, first vice-chairman; John C. Fallon, executive director of the construction contractors' association, second vice-chairman; Donald McLean of the Shell Oil Co.; and James Chapman, Collinsville, Madison county recorder of deeds.

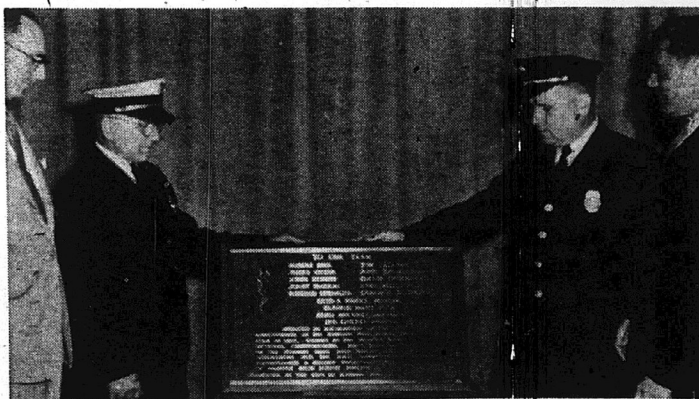
Kenneth Kelly is attorney for the housing authority.

Dute F. Braner, one of the five original commissioners, served as executive director and secretary-treasurer for over 24 years before his death April 26, 1966.

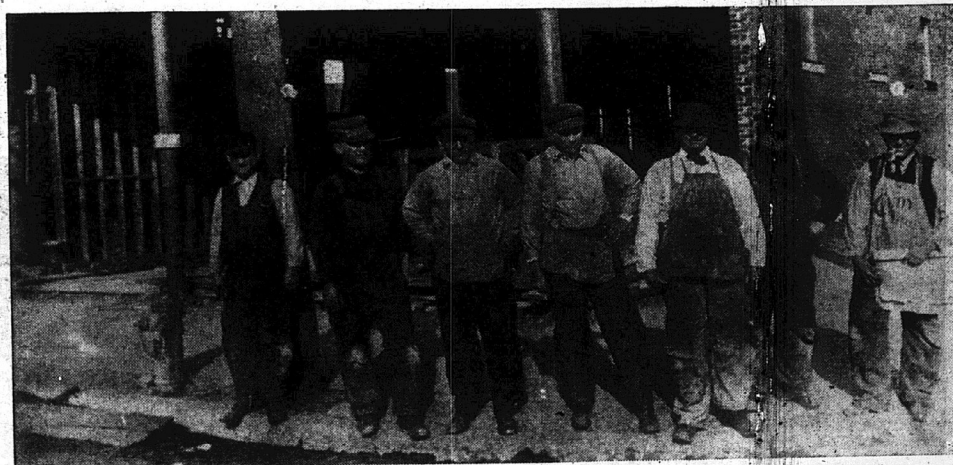
Miss Anna-May Moore has been appointed as acting executive director.

### Harlan Ran Pharmacy

Madison had a "modern, up-to-date pharmacy" in the early years of the 20th century, operated by J. M. Harlan. Also offered for sale there were patent medicines, perfumes, soda, medicines and cigars. He was born at Greenville, Ill., in 1854, and his experience in the pharmacy business began in 1873. His five children included a son, Dr. Lee Harlan, who initially assisted his father in conduct of the business.



**OUTSTANDING BASKETBALL TEAM** of 1951-52 was honored at a banquet April 16, 1952. Madison high school players won district, regional and sectional championships and reached the state tournament "sweet 16" at Champaign. Shown with a Madison fire department plaque relating the team's achievements are (left to right) Mayor Stephen Maeras, Fire Chief Emil Ulanski, Fire Capt. E. J. Miller, now chief, and Coach Francis Dant, now principal.



**CONSTRUCTION OF MADISON STORE** at Third street and Madison avenue. Earl Galloway (second from

left) is shown with a group participating in erection of the Reese drug store building.



# Many Religious Denominations Have Established Churches in Madison

Madison has been called the "City of Churches," with all major denominations represented.

One of the most impressive of all Madison structures is the circular St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, surmounted by one of the world's largest domes — 11th largest of its type in the world.

Madison also at one time was the home of the United Hebrew Temple of the Tri-Cities.

The Madison Presbyterian Church was established in the year of Madison's birth—1891. It was destroyed by fire and replaced by the present First United Presbyterian Church in the mid-1920s.

The Madison Baptist Church was built in 1908.

In 1914, the Madison Methodist Church was dedicated in a building occupied until then by a long-distance telephone exchange.

## Greek, Bulgarian, Polish

St. Mary's Greek Catholic Church, 1312 Iowa street, was extensively remodeled in 1954 in conformity with the Byzantine Rite. Its architecture is now identical to that of the original Catholic churches in the Ukraine. Paintings rather than statues are emphasized.

The Nativity of the Virgin Mary Eastern Orthodox Catholic Church, 416 Ewing avenue, was established in 1900. Patriarch Tikhon, Archbishop of the Orthodox Church in the United States, visited the Madison church in 1901 and donated a Bible and church bell.

Other Madison churches include Trinity Tabernacle, the Apostolic Christian Congregation, Arbor Chapel, Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church, Church of Christ, Church of God, Church of God in Christ, Church of God of Prophecy, Galilee Baptist Church, Gospel Chapel General Baptist Church, Mount Nebo Baptist Church, Pentecostal Power Church, Polish National Catholic Church, Quinn Mission African Methodist Episcopal Church, Refuge Church, Second General Baptist Church, Southern Baptist Church and Temple Baptist Church.

## Chain of Rocks River Reach Was Peril to Boats

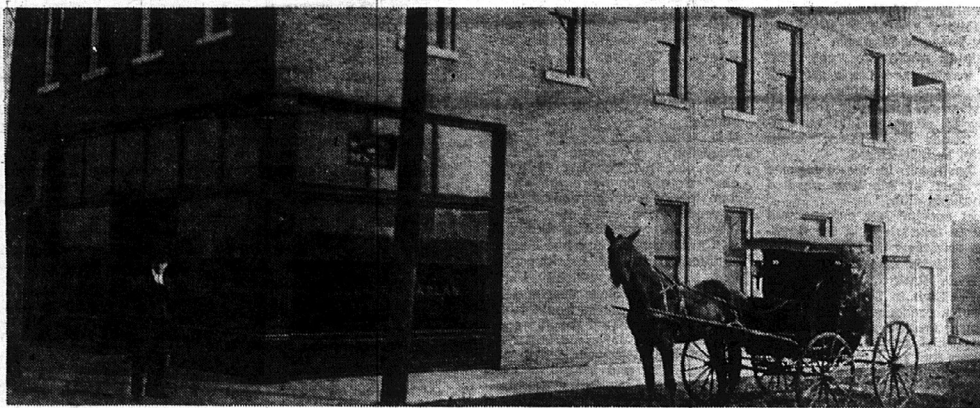
No longer remembered by citizens along the Madison county shore of the Mississippi River is the peril the Chain of Rocks reach of the river held for steamboat captains.

The channel, in the era of steamboat prosperity, gained such notoriety in ship-wrecking it was known as "the graveyard."

River steamers, with their paddle wheels and billowing smoke stacks, were frequently broken up in the rocky shoals near the mouth of the Missouri. The toll in human casualties was at times heavy.

When the Chain of Rocks reach was navigable, the route was slow and tedious. Vessels such as the "Little Eagle," described as "90 feet long and painted black," took about seven hours to get from St. Louis to Alton.

But the river knew no rivals in the steamboat age. As one witness, Captain Joseph Brown, said in 1912, "If anyone at that time (about 1836) had said the river would ever be bridged and that a train would cut travel time to a few minutes, he would have been thought to be crazy."



**HORSE AND BUGGY ERA** undeniably still prevailed in 1913 despite the growing number of "tin Lizzies" on Madison streets. Dr. L. C. Harlan is shown

that year by his medical office and the dental office of Dr. George Gitchoff in a brand new building at 500 Madison avenue.

## Madison Area Was Once a Part of 'Six-Mile Prairie'

Six-Mile Prairie was possibly the first name applied to the Quad-Cities, unless Indians had a name for the territory centuries ago. It evolved from the flat land and the establishment of a settlement six miles east of the mighty Mississippi.

Closely related to the early name was the Six-Mile House, a gathering place for drivers and travelers on the wagon trail leading to Venice, where ferries operated.

More of an inn in the old tradition than a hotel, it was a pioneer among local business establishments. A post office designated as Six-Mile was opened in 1837.

Later known as Heinemann's, Six-Mile House fell to the axe of progress early in this century.

A tavern was operated by a man named Muse in a frame building popularly known as "Five-Mile House," located about a mile closer to the river. "Four-Mile House" was at the present site of the Granite City Steel Co. Blast Furnace Division; an old farm dwelling, it was converted to Schmidt's tavern.

### Plank Road

The business places were located along a plank road, on which tolls were charged for passage.

The route to Venice was known as the old "national way," and part of it is now occupied by the Broadway thoroughfare. Kerr Island, surrounded by waters of the Mississippi, was its western terminus. The wagon trail extended all the way to the east coast.

The Merchants Bridge forms

one of the most tangible links with the past. It was constructed in 1890 as industrial leaders sought to connect both coasts by railway.

Steeple of early church buildings towered over the Quad-Cities well into the 20th century, though most have since been replaced. Original schools also were among the major landmarks of the early years of the Madison area.

## Herd of Buffaloes Passed Here in 1907

One of the most unlikely spectacles that could be imagined—a herd of buffaloes—passed through the Quad-Cities in October 1907.

Fifteen animals of what was then a rapidly-disappearing species, the American bison, were being taken from the New York Zoological Park to a 7680-acre ranch in Southwestern Oklahoma, where it was hoped they would flourish and help perpetuate the buffalo in this nation. They were placed in cages for the long journey.

### "Big Store" Really Big

Madison once had a "Big Store," and big it was, occupying a considerable distance along Madison avenue. Its operator was David Waschauer, who came to this country from Germany at the age of 25 in 1886. After a stay in New York, he reached Madison in 1891 and opened the store in 1893. Dry goods and general merchandise were sold.

## Madison Situated on River Floodplain, Rich Farmland

The American Bottoms of Madison and St. Clair counties, where once leagues of Indians roamed, contain some of the richest farm land in Illinois.

An expanded floodplain of the Mississippi River, the bottoms sweep out in a bow-shaped arc from limestone bluffs along the river at Alton to bend in 24 miles to corresponding limestone bluffs to the south at Dupon.

The Mississippi stretches like a cord between the two bluffs.

In its age-old flooding, it has deposited up to a six-foot layer of rich silt across the 100,000 acres which comprise the span of the bow.

Two-thirds of the American Bottoms lies in Madison county.

The heavy-yielding loam has spurred agricultural development in areas not taken up by principal metropolitan cities. The vast land is laid out in small farms which appear as neat and symmetrical plots of green and brown.

## Johns-Manville Operating Former Barber Asphalt Plant

History of the Madison plant of the Johns-Manville Products Corp. dates back more than 70 years, the last five under Johns-Manville management.

Asphalt roofing shipments of the plant for 1965 exceeded 1964 shipments by 3%, and another gain in shipments and production is expected this year. Employment has been stable, with inventory built in advance to meet heavy seasonal demands from May through September.

The Madison plant has an annual payroll of about \$625,000.

The plant also makes annual expenditures of about \$100,000 for telephone, gas, electricity and water service.

The local plant, to round out the building material line, also warehouses fiber glass insulation, asbestos siding and roofing shingles, asbestos cement board and Black Line products.

### One of 53 Plants

In addition to the Madison plant, there are 52 other Johns-Manville plants in the United States, Canada and overseas. These plants produce a wide variety of industrial products in addition to building materials.

In all, J-M manufactures and sells more than 100 major product lines. Sales offices are maintained in principal cities of the U. S., Canada and other parts of the world.

The company operates five mines—two asbestos mines in Canada, an asbestos mine at Coalinga, Calif., a major diatomite deposit at Lompoc, Calif., and a perlite deposit at No Aqua, N. M.

Johns-Manville Corp. headquarters are at New York, N. Y. Johns-Manville has a research and development center in Manville, N. J., the largest of its kind, where research is going on constantly to improve the present product line as well as develop new products.

### Opened in Early 1890s

Johns-Manville's Madison plant was operated by the Barber Asphalt Co. from the early 1890s until 1944, producing such products as asphalt roofing and paint.

During the war years, Barber Asphalt had government contracts and produced material which was used for temporary airplane landing strips.

From 1920 to 1926, Barber Asphalt also operated an oil refin-

ery at the west end of the present warehouse building.

### Celotex Buys Plant

In September 1945, the local plant was purchased by the Fry Roofing Co. Fry did not begin actual operation, and a short time later it was sold to Celotex Corp.

During the 15 years that Celotex operated the plant, many remodeling and expansion programs were carried out. In 1954, a 14,000-square-foot warehouse was built for storage of dry felt, which is the base of asphalt shingles and roll roofing products.

In 1955, the company erected 13 slate silos for storage of various colors of granules used in the production of asphalt roofing.

### Purchase by Johns-Manville

In early 1961, the plant was acquired from Celotex by the Johns-Manville Products Corp. Johns-Manville employs 21,000 persons at its many plants and sales office locations. In contrast, J-M started as a one-man operation 108 years ago.

Johns-Manville Products Corp. began operation of the Madison plant on May 1, 1961, appointing A. W. Buechner as plant manager. William L. Miltimore is the current manager.

At present there are 71 hourly and 17 salaried employees at the local plant.

Shipments are made by trucks and rail cars to customers in Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, Indiana and Kansas.

### Warehouse Added

The local plant is situated on 23.7 acres of land with approximately 250,000 square feet under roof. A warehouse, 180 feet by 232 feet in size was built in 1962.

Closely associated with the Barber Asphalt firm and local civic affairs for many years, M. S. Darrow was in charge of the local operations from 1914 to 1941.

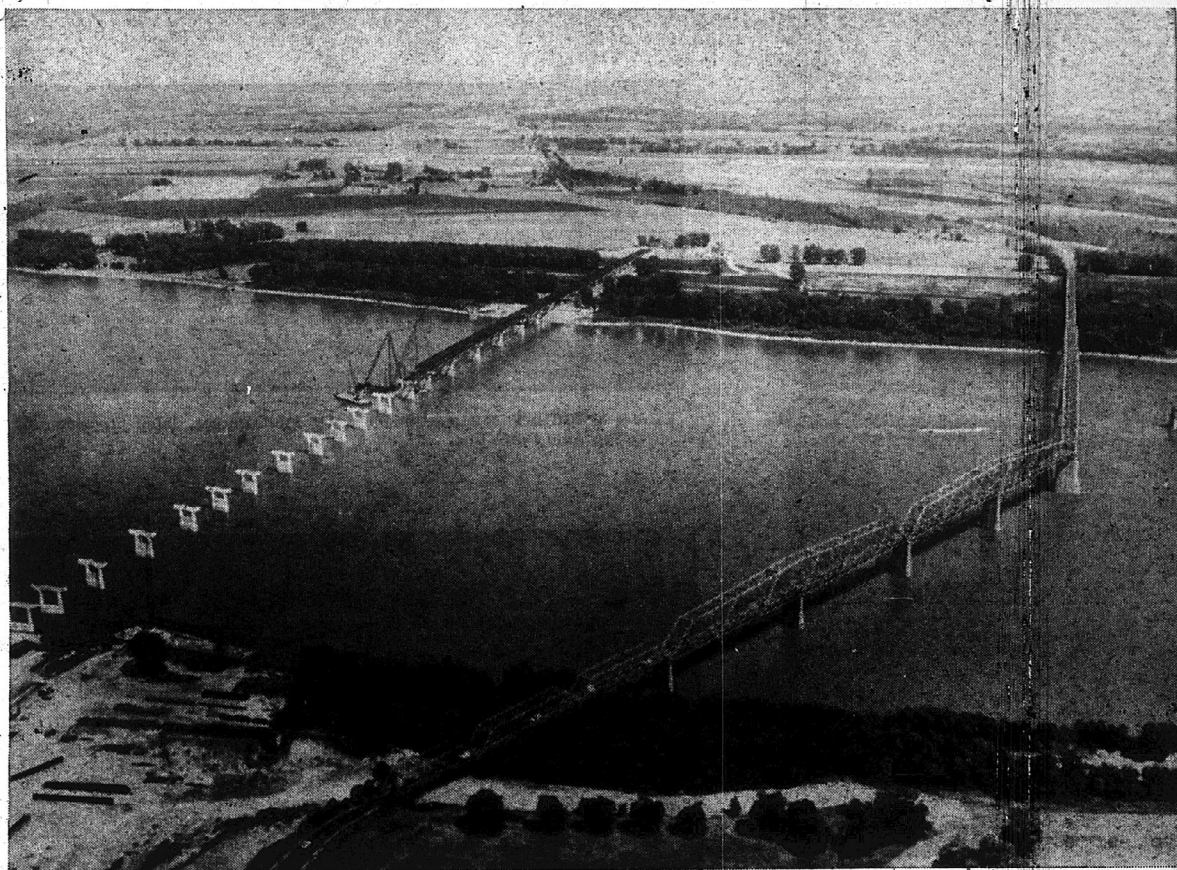
William J. Hart succeeded him in 1941-43, Everett Lyons 1943-44, and Manager McHugh from 1944 to 1945, when Fry Roofing bought the plant.

With Celotex the next owner of the plant, Franz J. Alfeis was manager from 1946 to 1951. Marion M. Hambrick 1951-55; Alfred R. Bideaux 1955-60; and Buechner, 1960 to 1964.

Miltimore has been manager since May 1964.



## Bridge Financial Support Ending, Industrial Park Income May Replace It



**TWO MAJOR PHASES** of Madison municipal governmental history are shown in these aerial photographs.

At the top, looking eastward across the Mississippi River toward Illinois, are the city-owned Chain of Rocks Bridge (right of photo) and the new toll-free Federal Interstate Route 270 bridge still under construction to the north (left of photo).

In the lower picture is the 65-acre industrial tract (marked with an X) bought by the city Aug. 13, 1964, in the hope of building one or more plants to the specifications of firms that would occupy them and employ Madison area residents. It is bounded to the south (right) by the Chicago & North Western Railroad and Madison high school (large arrow), on the west by Farish street, on the north by Tri-City Park and the Reilly Tar & Chemical plant and on the east by Illinois Terminal Railroad tracks. The arrow at the top of the photo points to the Granite City Steel Co. Blast Furnace Division.

Madison purchased the Chain of Rocks Bridge in 1939 on a 25-year bond retirement plan and refinanced it in 1948, after which part of the bridge profits went to the city treasury. The city was made tax-free for one year and then expanded its services, built sewers, streets, curbs and sidewalks and amassed a \$2½ million cash reserve.

The cash balance would be used to erect industrial facilities, and lease payments would then bolster municipal revenue much like yearly payments from the bridge have done in the past. When the free bridge opens this year, income-producing traffic on the Madison bridge is expected to end.







**NICOLA BROTHERS GENERAL STORE** at Sixth and State streets in 1908. Shown (left to right) are Sam Nickoloff, Theodore Gitcho, Bill Schapiro and Anna Gitcho Goulas. The store building no longer exists.



**BEARD GROWING CONTEST** has been under way in Madison in connection with the diamond jubilee, as indicated by the beard of Wayne Scannell (left), chairman of the beard phase of the celebration. He is shown being installed last week as Madison Rotary president; at right is Anthony Zedolek, retiring president.



**CONTRASTING STREET SCENES** in Madison are provided by these photographs. The top picture shows Madison avenue before being paved with wooden blocks. Horses, buggies and trains provided trans-

portation. The lower picture shows Madison avenue, looking south from the 500 block, in recent years but prior to removal of the two sets of street car tracks.



# Madisonians in Their Travel Togs . . . .

. . . . for  
Business . . . .



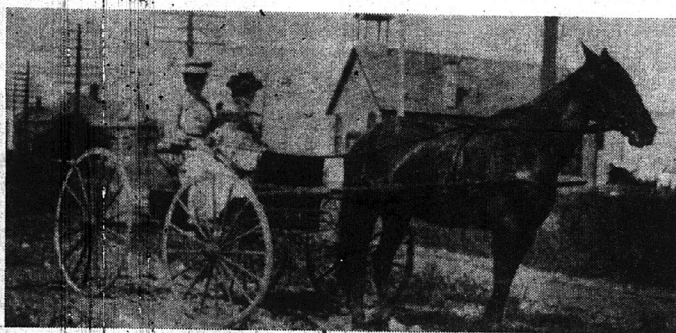
**EILER GROCERY 'TRUCK'**, manned by Paul Berger, later proprietor of the Berger & Son Auto Parts Co.

. . . . Pleasure



**ALL DRESSED UP AND SOMEPLACE TO GO** were these young Madison adults in 1910. Young men pictured (left to right) are Milo Connole, William Waggoner, Bruce Champion, Roger Studebaker and Joe Neff. Ladies (left to right) are Phoebe Dawson, Miriam Smith (O'Brien), Nan Smith (Shone), Lee Dawson and Marie Smith (Neff).

. . . . and  
Sunday  
'Go to  
Meeting'



**BEFORE THE BIG FLOOD.** This photograph was taken in the early spring of 1903 at Fourth street and Ewing avenue. Mrs. Warren Champion and son, Randall, and her mother, Mrs. Mary Young, are pictured in a horse-drawn buggy. In the background is the original Greek Orthodox Church, later replaced with a new structure.